ATTENTION--FBIS NOTICE ON

ADOPTION OF PINYIN TRANSLITERATION

XINHUA, the official news agency of the People's Republic of China, on 1 January 1979 adopted the Pinyin system of transliteration for Chinese proper names to replace the Wade-Giles system. FBIS will also adopt the new system, but will provide in parenthesis for a period of 1 month the Wade-Giles version immediately following a proper name the first time it appears within the body of any given item. Proper names in sourcelines of items monitored from PRC sources will also contain both versions for a period of 1 month. FBIS-supplied headlines will contain only the Pinyin version. Items from monitored Taiwan, Hong Kong and Overseas Chinese sources will retain Wade-Giles transliteration, unless these sources also adopt Pinyin.

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'ARAFAT DELIVERS MESSAGE ON REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

JN0108355Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 0615 GMT 31 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Brothers, we now read you a brief review of the message of brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, on the 14th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution. The message was published in newspapers issued in Beirut this morning.

A total of 14 years has passed since the rise of our triumphant revolution. It is now entering its 15th year, (?crowned) with laurels and victories over its enemies and recording new epics [words indistinct] inevitable victory.

The year has passed with its fierce challenges and treacherous conspiracies--the conspiracy of imposing capitulation on our people and the Arab nation, on Zionist and U.S. imperialist terms, bringing shame and dishonor [words indistinct] their expansionist Zionist and imperialist designs. [passage indistinct]

Developments succeeded one another in 1978 and firm revolutionary decisions were made to confront these developments. Brother Abu 'Ammar added: Our heroic and brave revolutionaries took their firm and revolutionary decision to stand fast against the U.S.-Israeli military decision in southern Lebanon, alongside our comrades in arms the honest and patriotic Lebanese fighters. Together, we recorded a great military victory for the Arab nation in approximately 8 days and nights [words indistinct] the Zionist army supported by the most sophisticated and lethal U.S. arms, which are internationally and humanely banned.

The serious plot to annihilate the revolution, its forces and command was wrecked on the rock of heroism, courage and sacrifice. This plot was swept away with the smoke of gunpowder [words indistinct] the PLO, which was the main (?target) of this barbaric campaign.

Then came the firm revolutionary decision to entrench the revolution and thwart the scheme of dealing it a blow from the interior [words indistinct] all attempts, including attempts at liquidation and assassination. The revolution emerged stronger than ever and filled with faith, firmness and strength in the face of these challenges of diverse forms and designs so that the revolutionary decision would remain a Palestinian decision without any submission or subservience.

The (?third) revolutionary decision was the time bomb that our great people released in the occupied land against the Camp David conspiracy [words indistinct] the cry of revolutionary conscience and the cry of the Palestinian will [words indistinct] this conspiracy and confronting its diverse forms, trends, designs and intentions.

The message concluded: [words indistinct] is coming whether it takes a long or a short time, whether our enemies wish it or not. This is the will of history, the will of the Palestinian blood and (?toil), the will of (?Arab steadfastness), the will of triumph for anything which is honorable, bold and just [words indistinct].

These facts should be known to those who draw up or are trying to draw up new political maps in the region, or are trying to (?undermine) the alliance of [words indistinct]. They should be made to understand that these machinations to impose their hegemony and [words indistinct] peoples and nations on the Camp David or Blair House table will not pass except over the dead bodies of the strugglers, fighters and honest revolutionaries of the Arab nation, and all sincere strugglers in the entire region.

'ARAFAT: NO PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST IF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS IGNORED

JN0106337Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 31 Dec 78 JN

[Text] On the 14th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution, Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has affirmed that there will be no peace, stability or settlement in the Middle East if the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights continue to be ignored.

In a message addressed to the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories, and to the Arab nation, 'Arafat stressed that these rights include the Palestinian people's right to return to their land, to have self-determination and to establish an independent state under the leadership of the PLO.

'Arafat added that these facts should be known to those who draw up or try to draw up new political maps in the region. They should realize that their conspiracies to impose their will on peoples, whether in Camp David or Blair House, will not be realized except over the dead bodies of the patriotic Arab fighters.

PALESTINIAN OFFICIAL DELIVERS SPEECH ON REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

JN0106367Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 30 Dec 78 JN

[Excerpts] Brothers: Here is the text of the speech of the political committee of the Palestinian revolution in Iraq, which was delivered by committee member Mahir Tahir at the rally held in the hall of Al-Mustansiriyah University in Baghdad this evening on the 14th anniversary of the rise of our armed Palestinian revolution.

Brothers and sisters: In the name of the Political Committee of the Palestinian revolution in Iraq I greet the 14th anniversary of the rise of the Palestinian national liberation movement, Fatah. It is the rise of the Palestinian revolution on 1 January 1965.

We celebrate the 14th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution under very critical and serious conditions facing our national struggle. The Arab reaction represented by As-Sadat declares frankly, impudently and blatantly that it is completely ready to coexist with the Zionist entity, conclude peace with it and recognize the legitimacy of its presence. This is an expression of reactionary interests in opposing the movement of the masses and its alliance with imperialism and colonialism. The negotiations are going on between As-Sadat and the Zionists. All attempts made to show that there are differences in viewpoints are only a kind of delusion aimed at the masses of the Arab nation.

Brothers and sisters: The contacts, the dialogs and the signing of agreements with the Jordanian regime by the PLO leadership is something to be exposed and explained because it bears massive dangers for the future of our revolution and struggle. We at the Political Committee of the Palestinian Revolution, while condemning such contacts and agreements, assert that our firm rejection of this arises from the fact that the settlement plot will not stop at the limits of As-Sadat's regime. U.S. imperialism will not be satisfied with what has happened on the Sinai front. The basic power on which imperialism depends for the forthcoming stage is the Jordanian regime. Therefore, imperialism is wagering on this regime to be the horse that will drag the PLO to the swamp of capitulation.

Similarly, the return of the resistance to Jordan with the aim of mobilizing the Palestinian masses on Jordanian territory and practicing the fight against the Zionist enemy is a goal that cannot be achieved except through the national popular struggle to obtain these rights. The road for the return of the resistance to Jordan is that of the popular struggle of the masses and cohesion with the Jordanian national movement, which constitutes the main pillar of our presence on this arena.

QADDUMI DENIES PLO CONTACTS WITH EGYPT

LD3016007Y Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1200 GMT 30 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah today held talks with head of the PLO Political Department Farug Qaddumi, who is on a private visit to Kuwait. Afterwards, Qaddumi said the talks dealt with Arab developments, especially the Palestinian issue, and Kuwaiti-PLO relations. He told journalists that Chairman of the PLO Yasir 'Arafat will visit Jordan after the session of the Palestine National Council--a parliament in exile--in the middle of January.

Qaddumi denied that there are any contacts between the PLO and the Egyptian Government and said that the organization, which is opposed to the peace policy of the Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat toward Israel, will never establish any contact with the Egyptian regime.

He also denied statements attributed to the director of the PLO office in Paris, Ibrahim as-Duz, that the organization might recognize Israel if the latter agrees to the establishment of a Palestinian state in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Qaddumi said he is due to go to Baghdad at the head of a delegation.

QADDUMI COMMENTS ON PALESTINIAN-IRAQI RELATIONS

JN2106447Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 31 Dec 78 JN

[Excerpts] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Farug Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, will arrive in the Iraqi capital today on an official visit to Iraq for talks with senior officials in Baghdad. The talks will deal with the latest developments in the current situation and Palestinian-Iraqi relations. This was stated by Brother Abu al-Lutf in Kuwait, where he is currently making a visit.

Brother Abu al-Lutf said that a new phase of cooperation between the PLO and Iraq began after the Baghdad summit conference. The Palestinian revolution is determined to strengthen its relations with Iraq in various fields.

PLO OFFICIAL RULES OUT OPERATIONS FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON

JN3015209Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1415 GMT 30 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, has said the Palestinians reject the policy of resettlement on (?anybody's) land, and in order to confront the process of resettlement we must keep our arms in our hands. This came in a statement made today by Brother Abu Iyad to the weekly magazine [name indistinct].

Brother Abu Iyad said that the revolution will not launch military operations from southern Lebanon but at the same time we must protect our refugee camps in the south.

we can only depend on ourselves to protect our camps. Brother Abu Iyad said that Israel is exploiting the Lebanese situation under the pretext of retaliating for fedayeen operations but the truth is that the enemy aims to inflame the Palestinian issue in Lebanon so as to demonstrate that its aggression is the result of the armed Palestinian presence in Lebanon.

In his statement to the Lebanese magazine, Brother Abu Iyad reiterated his rejection of self-rule. He said this rule will not lead to a Palestinian state but robs the Palestinian people of their right of self-determination.

PALESTINIANS CLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXPLOSIVE CHARGE IN JERUSALEM

JN2915203Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1415 GMT 29 Dec 78 JN

[Text] In spite of the dire attempts made by the Zionist occupation forces to stop the operations of our revolutionaries, especially in the occupied city of Jerusalem, a group of our revolutionaries yesterday was able to reach the top of the French hill in Jerusalem and the hill, which is usually crowded with Zionist settlers.

At 1905 yesterday the device was discovered while the security men and border guards were combing region. A number of explosive disposal experts who were immediately summoned to the scene failed to dismantle it. The device was then carried outside the supermarket and exploded with the heap of mechanical devices. The explosion shattered the glass of the supermarket and the adjacent buildings.

Announcing this today, the Palestinian military spokesman said that the Zionist forces, which cordoned off the area after discovering the device, arrested a number of Palestinian citizens in the area under the pretext of their being connected with the incident.

FATAH REPRESENTATIVE NOTES CHANGE IN U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD MIDEAST

JN0210197Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0945 GMT 2 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 2 Jan--Salim az-Za'nun, the Fatah representative in Kuwait and the Arab Gulf, has asserted that the U.S. stand following the Camp David Agreements has suffered a relapse because of the lack of support from the Arab states for Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat and because the oil countries, headed by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, have opposed U.S. policy.

In a statement published in the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM today, Az-Za'nun said that the United States has begun to change its attitude toward the Middle East crisis after realizing that its efforts to achieve a settlement through the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations will not solve the problem.

Az-Za'nun added: The United States has begun to realize that what it has done with the participation of Egypt and Israel has not solved the problem. There is a feeling for the need to hold a dialog with the rejectionist Arab side and also with the Palestinian side. Many people view this as a positive development that must be exploited to take the question back to the United Nations, where it will be handled more fairly than under the Camp David agreements.

The Fatah representative said that the U.S.-Israeli wager was toppled by the Baghdad summit, the Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement last November and the refusal of the occupied territory residents to support the Egyptian policy. The spokesman criticized the lack of steps to exploit these developments, which he described as "the beginning of the right course."

Concerning Palestinian relations with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, Ar-Ra'ayan said that the Palestinian resistance appreciates Saudi Arabia's and Kuwait's stands against the Camp David agreements. He also stressed the strong Palestinian-Kuwaiti relations and said that these relations stem from "absolute faith in the positive role which Kuwait is playing in the various fields."

ARAB LEAGUE, UGANDA SIGN AID AGREEMENT

HC0114GGY Cairo MENA in Arabic 1335 GMT 1 Jan 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 1 Jan--An agreement was signed at the Arab League headquarters today between the Arab League fund for technical aid to the Arab and African states and the Government of Uganda as part of the fund's program for strengthening Arab-African cooperation.

Under this agreement the fund will provide technical aid in the form of Egyptian experts, university teachers, and doctors to work in Uganda for 1 year. This aid will amount to $250,000.

ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY GENERAL RETURNS TO CAIRO FROM ALGIERS

JN3018HHY Cairo MENA in Arabic 1825 GMT 30 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Cairo, 30 Dec--Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad returned to Cairo from Algiers this evening after participating in the funeral of late President Houari Boumediene.

SAUDI ARABIA

MINISTER DENIES REPORT OF KING'S CALL FOR SUMMIT CONFERENCE

LD3120337Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 31 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani refuted a report repeated by some news agencies to the effect that the Saudi Arabian ambassador to Egypt said that His Majesty King Khalid has called for the convening of a summit conference. His excellency the information minister said that such matters are not decided on in press or news agency circles, and that Saudi Arabia affirms the importance of the current and crucial stage through which the Arab nation is passing--a stage which makes it imperative to unite and close ranks in order to stand up with determination and resolution to the various currents which are working for the disintegration of the Arab nation forces.

His excellency the information minister said that Saudi Arabia's stance on the fateful issues is clear, known and firm. Saudi Arabia cherishes unity in the ranks and rallying all so much that it will spare no efforts in its endeavor to make this a reality.

His excellency affirmed that the current stage requires press circles and news agencies in the Arab homeland to be more careful and accurate in reporting news and commentaries concerning leaders of the Arab nation. His excellency said that Saudi Arabia has attended Arab summit conferences, and it abides by the decisions of these conferences, and in so doing it is seeking to bring the Arabs together, close Arab ranks and mobilize Arab energies to confront the dangers which encompass the Arab nation.

SOMALI VICE PRESIDENT ENDS SAUDI VISIT

LD3120940Y Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2700 GMT 31 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpt] Jidda, 31 Dec--The vice president and minister of defense of the Somali Democratic Republic, Lt Gen Mohamed Ali Samanter, accompanied by Minister of Information Abdisalam Sheikh Hussein, left Jidda this morning for home at the end of a week's visit to Saudi Arabia.

During the visit, the Somali defense minister discussed the bolstering of relations between the kingdom and Somalia and inspected a number of military installations. The information minister discussed the bolstering of cooperation in the sphere of information between the two countries.

SAUDI PAPER REPORTS SECRET U.S.-PLO DIALOG

NC3111347 Doha QNA in Arabic 1126 GMT 31 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Jidda, 31 Dec--The newspaper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT today reports that U.S. President Carter's administration is now holding a secret dialog with the PLO through a mediator from Congress.

These sources [as received] have told the paper that President Carter this week received a letter from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The letter was carried from Beirut by a prominent Arab-American personality. The letter was handed to the White House by Paul Findley, member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

The paper says that the Arab-American personality, who was not named by the paper, carried a letter from President Carter to Mr Yasir 'Arafat a few weeks ago, following a 4-hour meeting which was held in Damascus last month between Findley and 'Arafat.

These sources said that the two letters contain the PLO's approval of the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as part of a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

The sources added that the U.S. officials are now looking for a way to induce the PLO to join in the efforts being exerted for peace in the Middle East, and to provide an acceptable political basis for contacting the Palestinian resistance movement publicly.

SAUDI KING SENDS REPLY MESSAGE TO AS-SADAT

BC3016102Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Dec 78 BC

[Text] Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has sent a letter to President as-Sadat in reply to a letter President as-Sadat had sent to him. The Saudi ambassador in Cairo, 'Abd ar-Rahman abu al-Khayl, handed the letter to Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

Upon handing over the letter, the ambassador said that during the meetings he has held with King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd, he sensed appreciation for President as-Sadat and his efforts. He added that the circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing require holding a summit meeting, particularly between King Khalid and President as-Sadat.

The Saudi ambassador said that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia continues to honor its commitments within the framework of Arab aid to Egypt in addition to its commitment to provide military, material and moral support.

He said that the two countries are in touch with each other and are exchanging views. He said that Saudi Arabia is currently studying Sudan's proposal to hold a meeting of foreign ministers to discuss the situation following the increase in oil prices as well as Somalia's proposal that it host the next session of the Arab League.

UAE

SOMALI FOREIGN MINISTER CONCLUDES VISIT TO UAE

JN3006549Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0630 GMT 30 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Dec--Somali Foreign Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre left the UAE early this morning following a 2-day private visit.

YEMEN--PDRY

PDRY PAPER REPORTS CONTINUING 'FIERCE BATTLES' IN YAR

LD3015102Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Dec 78 LD/KA

[Text] Today's ATH-THAWRI reports that fierce battles are still going on between the people's revolutionary forces of the Democratic National Front in the northern part of the homeland and forces of the San'a' agent clique.

The paper says that last Wednesday the agent authorities in San'a' despatched a large military expedition to the As-Saddan area and Al-Hadirah to terrorize the people and destroy their houses in a bid to spread alarm among them. The people's revolutionary forces resisted this barbaric expedition and valiantly defended the citizen's villages, lives and property.

The reactionary San'a' authorities used various means of attack including the air force, destroying several citizens' houses, killing their livestock and burning their property. The people's revolutionary forces launched a counterattack and, after 24 hours of fighting, succeeded in capturing military positions in Jabal Nur, Jabal (Khawal) and some parts of Jabal (al-Ard). The agent forces suffered large loss of life and material.

Some of the regime's forces stationed in the (Al-Wasitah) area refused to carry out orders from San'a' military raids against the people in the area. ATH-THAWRI also says that last week's battles in the Rada area resulted in the destruction of an armored car, together with its crew of three, a troop carrier and several other vehicles. Documents and weapons were also seized.

BREZHNEV CONGRATULATES ISMA'IL ON ELECTION AS PRESIDIUM CHAIRMAN

LD312305Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 31 Dec 78 LD/KA

[Text] Brother Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council [PSC], has received a cable congratulating him on his election as chairman of the PSC Presidium from Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. The cable reads:

On the occasion of your election, chairman of the PSC Presidium of the PDRY, please accept our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for further successes in your fruitful activities for the good of the Democratic Yemeni people. I am confident that the strong friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the USSR and Democratic Yemen will continue to develop for the good of our countries, general peace international security. I wish the friendly Democratic Yemeni people who have chosen the road of socialist development further successes in building the new society under the leadership of their revolutionary vanguard, the YSP. The Yemeni people can rely firmly on the USSR's continued support in their struggle for socialism and socialist progress and against imperialism and reaction.

YEMEN--YAR

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON NUMAYRI'S PROPOSAL ON OPEC DECISION

JN311343Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Commenting on the Sudanese president's proposal to hold an emergency session of the Arab League Council to discuss the OPEC decision on the oil price increase and his call to set up an Arab fund to support the non-oil-producing Arab countries, Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj said:

We in the YAR support Sudan's proposal to set up an Arab fund to support the non-oil-producing Arab countries. He added: We also support the call to hold an emergency session of the Arab League. We propose to hold this session in Khartoum immediately to avoid harm that might befall the non-oil-producing Arab countries. We must remember that most of the fraternal oil producing countries are not reluctant to help others. The oil producing countries are fully aware of the difficulties being experienced by the other countries.

AL-AHRAM, OFFICIAL ON ISRAELI CABINET DECISION

AL-AHRAM: Egypt To Resume Talks

NC0122145Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2225 GMT 1 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 1 January--AL-AHRAM says in its Tuesday edition that a responsible source announced today that following the recent Israeli Cabinet decision, which constitutes a new Israeli position, Egypt agrees to resume peace negotiations with the Israeli side.

The paper adds that during his meeting today at the presidential palace in 'Abidin with Vice President Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, President Anwar as-Sadat discussed the Israeli Cabinet's decision to resume negotiations with Egypt.

AL-AHRAM says that the Egyptian viewpoint regarding the basis for the resumption of the negotiations will be conveyed to U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance after discussions during the cabinet meeting scheduled for Wednesday.

The paper also says that during the cabinet meeting, Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil will explain the Egyptian views regarding the interpretations related to the Egyptian-Israeli draft treaty in the light of what happened at the meetings in Brussels in December, which were attended by Cyrus Vance and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan.

AL-AHRAM adds that according to Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources today, the resumption of the negotiations with the Israeli side is aimed at fulfilling a number of principles: that a Middle East settlement must be a comprehensive one; that it must fulfill the demands of the Palestinian people; that it must be committed to a timetable; and that it must not be in conflict with Egypt's national, Arab and international commitments.

The paper quotes these sources as saying that although the recent Israeli position rejects a number of these principles, it nevertheless confirmed Israel's willingness to negotiate on the exchange of letters on linking the Sinai agreement with the establishment of self-rule on the West Bank and Gaza. It also affirmed Israel's willingness to discuss the interpretation of Article IV, which deals with security arrangements, as well as the need to reconsider this article after 5 years.

The paper adds that a number of Egyptian ambassadors abroad will be invited to take part in the assessment of the situation in which the vice president, the Foreign Ministry and the prime minister's office will take part.

Foreign Ministry Source Comments

NC3119127Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1907 GMT 31 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 31 December--Commenting on the Israeli Government's decision to resume negotiations for the conclusion of an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and its willingness to discuss the exchange of complementary letters on the implementation of self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza, an official source at the Foreign Ministry said that this decision constitutes a new Israeli position, and that while acknowledging this, Egypt still emphasizes the following:

1. That a settlement in the Middle East must be comprehensive.

2. That the settlement must fulfill the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in accordance with a specific timetable.

3. That the settlement requires the nonencroachment on Egypt's national commitments to its Arab nation and its international commitments.

Butrus Ghali Statement

NCO113407 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT 1 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 1 January--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and acting Foreign Minister Butrus Ghali has stated that what Israel calls the new Egyptian proposals are not new at all and that these proposals affirm and crystallize Egypt's attitude ever since the conclusion of the Camp David conference. He added that Egypt has also affirmed this stand since the first day of the Washington talks. Butrus Ghali added that a just and comprehensive settlement is needed for the Middle East crisis, and that in order to be able to draw up the principles of this overall settlement, there must be a clear linkage between the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai and its withdrawal from Gaza and the West Bank.

Dr Butrus Ghali said that as long as the Israelis persist in their refusal to sign and exchange identical letters, which are intended to serve as a complementary agreement to be signed at the same time as the Israeli-Egyptian treaty, Egypt will refuse to sign this treaty.

Dr Ghali affirmed that Egypt will refuse to sign this treaty if the Israeli side will not sign the complementary agreement, which outlines an executive program concerning the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. This complementary agreement also stipulates that discussions will start 1 month after the signing of the treaty and that elections in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip will be concluded before the end of 1979. After this, self-rule will come into effect, military rule will be abolished and the Israeli forces will withdraw to specific positions along the border.

Dr Butrus Ghali expressed his hope that these difficulties will be surmounted after Israel agrees to the linkage and the timetable. He added that the Palestinian side will participate in the elections leading to the establishment of Palestinian rule--which is to be considered the first step toward establishing a Palestinian entity and eventually a state.

[**Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic** at 0530 GMT on 1 January says that "the Egyptian Government has welcomed yesterday's decision by the Israeli Government to resume negotiations with Egypt. Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said last night that this decision is considered a positive step which could pave the way for solving the Palestinian problem, which is the crux of the Middle East problem."]

[Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic at 0900 GMT on 31 December adds that "Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has announced that Egypt will ask for the participation of PLO representatives in the negotiations that will take place following the self-rule elections on the West Bank and Gaza. Dr Ghali said that a Palestinian state will ensue from these negotiations. Asked about the location of the Palestinian state, Dr Butrus Ghali said: Palestine will emerge first on the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip. Dr Ghali expressed hope that the Palestinian entity will join Jordan in view of the common ties between them. Dr Ghali added: The Palestinians will be independent. However, there will be a federal or confederal system between Palestine and Jordan."]

DEFENSE MINISTER DISCUSSES CAMP DAVID, NEGOTIATIONS

JN3016227Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Cairo, 30 December--Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, minister of defense and war production, has asserted that Egypt with its army and armed forces is capable of defending its borders, of performing its tasks and of honoring its Arab commitments when necessary. He added: Proceeding from this principle, the political leadership in Egypt has always supported strong armed forces capable of achieving their tasks.

The defense minister asserted that the policy of diversifying the sources of arms has benefited the armed forces in general and the air force in particular.

This came in a speech the defense minister delivered today during his meeting with the commanders, officers and soldiers of an air base. The meeting was attended by Air Force Maj Gen Mahmud Shukir 'Abd al-Mun'in, air force commander, and senior air force officers.

The defense minister began his speech by welcoming the men of the air force. He described them as the men who dealt the first blow in the October war, who endured and performed the noblest tasks, and who continued their efforts throughout the war with the best performance and in the most honorable way men can. The defense minister explained that the air force was a major target for the diversification of the sources of arms in the 5-year development plan.

Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that this meeting comes at a decisive time in the history of the Arab homeland in light of the peace efforts of President as-Sadat and the peace initiative, which could not have materialized had it not been for the October victory and the feeling of strength, dignity and the efficiency of the armed forces and their ability to perform their tasks.

Speaking about the Camp David negotiations, he said that these negotiations started 10 months after the president's initiative, after the Israeli leadership absorbed this initiative as it had absorbed the lessons of the October war.

Speaking about President Carter's efforts to make the Camp David negotiations succeed, he said that the negotiations could have failed because of Egypt's insistence on regaining the Arab rights and achieving a comprehensive solution and just peace.

Speaking about the Washington talks, Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali explained that these talks were based on the two Camp David agreements. The Sinai agreement was supposed to be a first step toward the comprehensive solution. Therefore, the Egyptian negotiators insisted on full linkage between the two agreements.

Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali asserted that Egypt insisted on linking the two agreements for several reasons. The foremost reason is that the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, which dealt with the issue of withdrawal from Sinai, provides in its preamble that the Sinai agreement, or the agreement between Egypt and Israel, is a prelude to the comprehensive solution in the area, and that Egypt and Israel should seek to urge the rest of the sides, whether Jordan or the Palestinians, to participate in the peaceful and comprehensive solution. Furthermore, the second article of the agreement asserts that the borders between Egypt and Israel were the international borders of Egypt when Palestine was a British mandate.

The defense minister then explained the details of the provisions of the treaty. He emphasized Egypt's insistence on the establishment of autonomy for the Palestinians, transferring power from the Israeli military government to a government elected by the Palestinians, and then effecting the Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to positions to be agreed upon during the negotiations. He explained that these measures would take place 3 months after signing the agreement. He said that the U.S. side submitted a proposal to complete all these measures before the end of 1979.

Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali pointed out that the Camp David agreements stipulate that Israel should carry out unilateral actions to prove good intentions, to improve the atmosphere and to encourage other parties to participate in the peace negotiations, such as reducing the Israeli forces in the West Bank and Gaza; transferring military rule from Nabulus and Gaza to areas outside the West Bank and the strip; releasing political prisoners detained in Israeli prisons; reuniting the families that left the West Bank and Gaza after 1967 and which are still residing away from their kinfolk; and the handing over of some 45 percent of the land to the local administration authorities in Gaza and the West Bank.

He added that Israel, however, tried to maneuver as a result of internal divisions of opinion, the multiplicity of parties and the party outbiddings in Israel. Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali asserted that Egypt's stand was clear and firm and that Egypt opposes the policy of setting up settlements because this contradicts the spirit of Camp David.

He said efforts are continuing and the negotiations are of interest to the U.S. side. He said that Vance came to the area and remained for a while for the sake of negotiations. The Egyptian and U.S. views were identical. Israel is well aware of the fact that we will never budge from our stand because it is a principled stand. He added: We endeavor to achieve an overall peace because there can neither be war nor peace without Egypt. He said that there can be no solution for the problem in the absence of the solution of the Palestinian cause, which represents the core of the problem.

In conclusion, Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Egypt is the Arabs' force and that the Egyptian Armed Forces are the shield for all the Arabs. He asserted that the armed forces will continue to perform their role so that their combat efficiency and moral spirit will continue to be high in a manner compatible with their military history and role--a role that has always been an example to be followed as far as combat and valor are concerned.

The defense minister stressed the need to demonstrate concern and more attention for the fighter in the armed forces, because the individual who stands behind the weapons is a pillar of the battle.

At the end of the meeting, Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali answered questions by the fighters dealing with the current situation and its dimensions.

EGYPT PREPARING COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF MIDEAST SITUATION

MC011415Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1402 GMT 1 Jan 79 MC

[Text] Cairo, 1 January--MENA has learned that Egypt is currently preparing a comprehensive study and assessment of the Middle East situation that will deal with the events taking place in the area.

The agency has learned that in the light of this study, Egypt will launch a diplomatic campaign, the form of which will be defined in the next few days.

FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI STRESSES ARAB UNITY IN INTERVIEW

JN3010127Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0911 GMT 30 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Paris, 30 December--Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has stated that what is now being achieved in 1 day between Damascus and Baghdad would have taken a long time to achieve before. The reason is good intentions and the importance the two countries attach to unity, he said. In an interview with the Paris-based Lebanese magazine AL-MUSTAQBAL, published here today, Dr Hammadi announced that the Higher Political Committee formed under the Charter of Joint National Action will meet soon under Presidents Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and Hafiz al-Asad.

Dr Hammadi said: We have begun unity work in the economic, political and cultural fields. The unity of both parties will, no doubt, come about.

Dr Hammadi spoke about the Baghdad summit. He said that the summit will renew its activity to eliminate any misunderstanding in the outside world, whether intentional or unintentional, of the Arab world's position on the Camp David agreements. He added that it has now become clear, especially in Washington, that all the Arabs reject the Camp David agreements. Therefore, the government of a single Arab country cannot be considered as representative of the entire Arab public opinion.

Dr Hammadi said that Iraq and Syria are now working on the best formula to achieve unity, which will be a big Arab political event.

The Iraqi foreign minister said that relations between Iraq and the Palestinian resistance are normal again and that Iraq's relations with Jordan are now relations of cooperation and brotherhood. He said that relations between the Palestinian resistance and Jordan have also taken a new turn. He added that inter-Arab relations in general and the relations among the forces that directly influence the Arab-Israeli conflict are now better than before.

Dr Hammadi said that no one should overlook the great significance of the program of economic and financial cooperation produced by the Baghdad summit. The program will certainly have its effect on the separate negotiations between the Israel and Egyptian leadership, he added.

Dr Hammadi said that Iraq has always called for a unified Arab effort against the enemy and that Iraq still maintains its position with regard to Resolution 242, the illegitimacy of the Zionist entity and the need for a protracted struggle against Israel's existence.

Regarding Iraqi-Soviet relations, Dr Hammadi said that they were more than political; they are relations of friendship and cooperation. He added: Our relations with the Soviet Union are on the upswing, although not in a straight line, just like relations between any two independent countries.

Regarding the recent steps between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, Dr Hammadi said Iraq supports closer ties between any group of Arab states when the objective is to strengthen the Arabs. He announced that Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abadallah as'Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, will visit Iraq soon.

Regarding Iraq's position on the Iranian incidents, Dr Hammadi said: Baghdad's relations with Tehran are based on the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs. Therefore, Iran's affairs are the concern of Iran alone. Naturally, we would like the situation in Iran to stabilize and peace to prevail there.

SYRIAN-IRAQI JOINT POLITICAL COMMITTEE HOLDS MEETING

JN0211927Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT 1 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 1 January--The meetings of the third session of the Joint Political, Information and Cultural Committee emanating from the Higher Political Committee, which stems from the Syrian-Iraqi National Charter for Joint Action, began in Baghdad this evening. The Iraqi side is headed by Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member; and the Syrian side is headed by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. In the first session today, Tariq 'Aziz stated that the committee has been able to make big strides in its tasks in the fields of cooperation, coordination and integration between both fraternal countries. The previous meetings of the committee, 'Aziz said, demonstrated that we have reached a high level of profound understanding, good coordination and sincere desire to implement the National Charter for Joint Action. Tariq 'Aziz expressed confidence that the committee would move ahead to achieve more coordination and integration between both fraternal countries in order to achieve unity. He said: In this session we face the task of preparing for the meeting of the Higher Political Committee, which we hope will meet in accordance with the schedule for unity prepared by the leaderships of both fraternal countries. In a speech at the first session, Khaddam said that the meeting of the committee is giving a clear picture about the steps taken to carry out its tasks and apply the contents of the National Charter for Joint Action. Khaddam referred to the meetings between the popular and vocational organizations in both countries and said that through these organizations our peoples affirm the importance of their unity. Concluding his speech, Khaddam said that the work of the committee is particularly important at this stage because it will pave the way for the coming meetings of the Higher Political Committee.

The Iraqi side at the committee meetings also includes Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, minister of foreign affairs; Sa'id Qasim Hammadi, minister of information; 'Abd al-Husayn al-Jamali, Foreign Ministry under secretary; and Walid al-Khashali [name as received], Iraq's ambassador to Syria.

The Syrian side includes: Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, minister of information; 'Abd al-Karim 'Ali, minister of state for foreign affairs; Haytham al-Kilani, head of the Department of Organizations in the Foreign Ministry; and the Syrian charge d'affaires in Baghdad.

CUBAN AMBASSADOR DISCUSSES BILATERAL RELATIONS

JN3021719Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1654 GMT 30 Dec 78 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 30 December--Juan Ibanez Carretero, Cuban ambassador extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Iraq, has declared that relations between Iraq and Cuba are being consolidated daily because both friendly countries are standing together to combat imperialism, Zionism and reaction and because both belong to the nonaligned movement. In a press conference here today on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the victory of the revolution in Cuba, Ambassador Carretero said that the visit of President Castro to Baghdad in 1973 and his meeting with President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn as well as the recent visit of Saddam Husayn to Cuba have opened the doors for the development of bilateral, friendly relations in various domains and on all levels. Ambassador Carretero explained that large-scale cooperation is currently taking place between the departments of both countries in industry, public health, construction, irrigation, agriculture and other fields of cooperation. The ambassador reviewed the phases of economic, social and political growth and development that Cuba has passed through in the last 20 years and the achievements accomplished in the country under the leadership of the socialist revolution.

AMMAN AD-DUSTUR REPORTS ON LIBYAN AID TO JORDAN

JN0107Z5Y Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Jan 79 p 1 JN

[Text] Amman--AD-DUSTUR--The Libyan Government has decided to give financial aid to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in appreciation for its steadfastness and patriotism.

The Libyan ambassador in Amman, Salih as-Sunusi, told the AD-DUSTUR correspondent following his return to Amman yesterday that the People's General Congress, which met under Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, has decided to include Jordan in the financial aid given to the frontline states and forces, which include Syria and the PLO, in fulfillment of Libya's duty to the brothers in the eastern front and in appreciation of Jordan's pan-Arab stand, and also in order to bolster its steadfastness against all challenges.

The Libyan ambassador concluded his statement by saying that a high-level Libyan delegation will visit Jordan in February for talks to consolidate the relations between the two fraternal countries and that there will be an exchange of visits between officials in both countries for this purpose.

CROWN PRINCE HASAN LEAVES FOR AUSTRIA ON PRIVATE VISIT

JN3112Z4Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Dec 78 JN

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan and Her Highness Princess Tharwat left Amman today for Austria on a few days private visit. Their highnesses were seen off at the airport by members of the Hashemite family, the prime minister and several senior state officials.

AMMAN AL-AKHBAR ON DECISION TO RESUME EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TALKS

JN0207Z5Y Amman AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 2 Jan 79 pp 1, 11 JN

[Editorial: "The Resumption of Negotiations and the Deadlock"]

[Excerpts] Ever since the so-called Egyptian peace initiative that broke the wall of international isolation imposed on Israel and made Menahem Begin reach the stature of a Nobel Peace Prize winner after he had been described as a criminal executioner, Israel has been trying to keep the thin thread attracting it to Egypt under the umbrella of the alleged peace in order to retain its moral stance and other gains resulting from the initiative.

This seems clear from the decision made by the Israeli Government yesterday regarding the resumption of negotiations with Egypt on the explanatory questions appended to the peace treaty, or in other words on the amendments that Egypt proposed to introduce in this treaty.

All this indicates that Israel is currently trying to appear before the world as eager to overcome the deadlock reached by the peace negotiations with Egypt. Consequently, Israel is trying to appear as eager to achieve peace, particularly since the world public and the official world opinion can forget quickly and can forget also that it was Israel that caused the deadlock in the negotiations. Israel is agreeing to resume the negotiations only to make it reach another deadlock, because peace with Israel within the framework of the Camp David agreements and Blair House remains an illusion.

VOP: JOINT FORCES REPULSE ISRAELI GUNBOATS

JN0102ZY Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 0530 GMT 1 Jan 79 JN

[Text] The military spokesman of the Joint Forces Central Command has made the following statement:

1. At 1940 yesterday, Zionist enemy gunboats shelled Ra's al-'Ayn area with missiles and heavy machineguns. The joint forces returned the fire, prevented the enemy gunboats from achieving their objectives and forced them to withdraw at once.

2. At 2045 yesterday, the joint forces foiled a Zionist enemy naval landing attempt south of Ar-Rashidiyah. The Zionist enemy forces were forced to retreat in view of the fierce resistance of the joint forces.

At 1620 yesterday, several Zionist enemy gunboats opened heavy machinegun fire on Ra's al-'Ayn near Ar-Rashidiyah camp in southern Lebanon. At 1440, the Zionist gunboats began firing missiles on Ra's al-'Ayn and the area south of it. The artillery of the joint forces confronted the enemy gunboats and forced them to flee to the high seas.

The barbaric Zionist shelling destroyed only a house and damaged another. Several adjoining plantations were damaged, but there were no casualties.

U.S. ENVOY PRESENTS REPLY TO INQUIRIES ON SOUTH

BC311546Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 31 Dec 78 BC

[Text] U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon John Gunther Dean proceeded to the home of Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Hass in Ad-Dawhah at 1600 today and presented him with the U.S. Government reply to Lebanese inquiries about Washington's position on the situation in the southern border area.

Ambassador Dean had earlier briefed the Lebanese foreign minister on the U.S. position.

ARMY COMMAND RECEIVES U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT

BC291440Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Dec 78 BC

[Text] The army command has recently received a consignment of U.S. military equipment for rearming the Lebanese Army and consolidating its fighting capability.

It is worth mentioning that in addition to receiving the equipment provided for under the U.S. loan, the army command has revived old agreements and has concluded new ones under its budget for rearming and reequipping the army.

FORCES COMMAND SPOKESMAN ON CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

BC301940Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 30 Dec 78 BC

[Text] Commenting on the cease-fire violations in the southern suburb and Dahiyah, the official spokesman for the Lebanese Forces Command made the following statement a short time ago:

For several days now, the cease-fire decision has been repeatedly violated by one particular side. Meanwhile, all units of the Lebanese forces have continued to totally adhere to the cease-fire decision on all fronts despite provocations. The Lebanese Forces Command wants everybody to follow the example of its units and adhere to the spirit of absolute discipline, hoping that such a constructive attitude will help bring reassurance and calm in the new year.

The spokesman added: We do not exclude the possibility that what happened this afternoon is intended to prevent implementation of the measures adopted by the Lebanese Forces Command this morning during its meeting with the military officials in the southern suburb--measures that would restore normalcy to the area.

RECENT SECURITY MEASURES BEGIN BEARING FRUIT

BC3013407Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 30 Dec 78 BC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Hass was busy dealing with security affairs today. He met with Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman and read reports on the security situation in Beirut and its suburbs. Regarding the security situation in the capital, the recent security measures, including the joint patrols to combat violations and car thefts, have begun to bear fruit and reassure the citizens.

LEBANESE FRONT MEETS 29 DEC, ISSUES STATEMENT

BC2914567Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 29 Dec 78 BC

[Text] The Lebanese Front met from 1030 until 1215 today, after which secretary general of the front Edouard Hunayn delivered a statement which dealt with the mission undertaken by Cardinal Bertoli and the Paris dialog between representatives of the Gaullist party and the Lebanese parties. Hunayn said that the dialog was necessary to eliminate any obstacles in the way of a comprehensive solution to the Lebanese crisis.

Concerning the resettlement of Palestinians in Lebanon, Hunayn said the front, which wants to trust the statements made by the parties concerned with the question, announces its total rejection of the resettlement. The front declares that if the resettlement were to take place it would be followed by partition, which would bring undesired consequences, imbalance and dissolution of the Lebanese entity. The front urges the friendly states to reconsider this subject in light of its adverse results.

Regarding the Lebanese evacuees, the front pays equal attention to all groups and opposes the presence of a single Lebanese refugee in Lebanese territory. Therefore, the front declares that evacuee affairs should be the government's concern. Even more important is their return home, which can only be achieved by providing security. There will be no security as long as foreign forces are deployed in the country. The evacuees must be given compensation to repair their homes.

Concerning schools, the front pays attention to the question of higher education. Some problems are connected with the evacuees issue. The front is concerned about education and the continuity of schools. The front says that Lebanon became an arena of Arab conflict following the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. The front draws the attention of the world to a serious round which began with the Nahr al-Kalb and American University incidents and with reported Lebanese concentrations in the Jubayl area in preparation for an attack on the area.

The front reaffirms that no security measures will be effective unless they are just and fairly applied to each of the two conflicting parties. Lebanon must have a strong army to regain its stature. The front will not allow anything to harm the Army Command. The front says that the two attempts expressed in the constitutional and parliamentary documents have failed.

AL-JUMAYYIL DISCUSSES SYRIAN WITHDRAWAL, SECURITY

BC2915027Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1217 GMT 29 Dec 78 BC

[Excerpts] After the meeting of the Lebanese front today, [Phalangist leader] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil discussed the general situation in the country with newsmen.

Replying to a question about a statement by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in which he said he intends to withdraw the Syrian forces from Lebanon, Shaykh al-Jumayyil said: I have not heard of such a statement. However, it is natural for such a thing to happen. We know that the Syrian forces entered Lebanon on a temporary basis, within the framework of a group of Arab forces. These forces were charged with a task which, regrettably, they could not carry out successfully. To be just and fair, we must say that these forces exerted maximum efforts but they failed. Their basic task was to establish security, but such security could not be established in the south, in the north, in Beirut or in Al-Biqa'. Therefore, it is in the interest of everybody--Arabs, Syrians and Lebanese--that this question be reconsidered.

Asked if he believes that Syria's decision to withdraw its forces from Lebanon would have political and military repercussions, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said: I cannot predict what will happen, but I and everybody believe that the matter is serious, particularly after 4 years of continuing collapse in Lebanon. Though others can wait, our country cannot do so. We must rescue ourselves and our country. The Lebanese Christians and Muslims must join hands to achieve this.

Asked if he approves of the Syrian Army's withdrawal from Lebanon, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said that the forces that entered Lebanon are borrowed, and it is natural that when Lebanon regains its intrinsic strength, the question of security becomes a Lebanese responsibility involving the army, the gendarmerie, the police and all the other Lebanese security forces. If the Arabs are loyal to Lebanon, Palestine and the other Arab issues, they should provide a suitable atmosphere for building the Lebanese Army and the other security forces.

Sham'un Remarks

BC2919505Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 29 Dec 78 BC

[Excerpts] After the meeting of the Lebanese Front today, former President Camille Sham'un stated that the information he has obtained from the press about the security plan indicates that the plan is frozen. We insist on implementation of the plan so that the schools can reopen and the people can return to their homes.

Replying to a question about the report published in the Syrian newspaper TISHRIN that the Syrian forces are expected to withdraw from Lebanon, Sham'un said: I do not know to what extent this newspaper expresses the position of the Syrian Government. However, I hope that this wish will be fulfilled.

PRESIDENT MEETS COMMANDERS, CALLS FOR UNITED ARMY

BC3011227 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Dec 78 BC

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis today reviewed the situation in the ministries of labor, education and industry with Minister As'ad Rizq.

At 1300, President Ilyas Sarkis received Defense Minister and Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri, Army Chief of Staff Brig Gen Munir Turbay; the inspector general; the deputies to the chief of staff, area commanders and some directors, who congratulated the president on the new year.

A family atmosphere prevailed during the meeting. His excellency the president talked with Commander Khuri and his fellow officers. His excellency the president expressed appreciation for the steps taken so far to rebuild the army despite the difficulties involved.

His excellency emphasized the need for continuing to build a strong army that will fulfill the aspirations and ambitions of the Lebanese citizens. He said that the Lebanese people are looking forward to the day when their army can exercise complete authority and sovereignty over Lebanese territory.

President Ilyas Sarkis said that Napoleon had once said that he needed three things to win the war: money, money and money. He added that Lebanon also needs three things to build its state: an army, an army and an army.

His excellency then recalled what took place when the Chamber of Deputies held a session to approve the budget when Fu'ad Shihab was army commander. He said that during the session, Shihab presented a budget for the defense minister but some officials considered it exorbitant. He added that Commander Shihab answered the then finance minister by saying: Building armies costs a lot, but not building them costs more.

Finally, the president expressed the wish that Commander Khuri and the officers accompanying him next year would witness the building of a united capable army.

AL-HUSS DISAPPOINTED OVER BAYT AD-DIN PROCRASTINATION

BC3021107 Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 2015 GMT 30 Dec 78 BC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has expressed disappointment over the fact that the authorities have not yet been able to implement the Bayt ad-Din conference resolutions. Prime Minister al-Huss expressed his disappointment during his meeting with a number of politicians.

The prime minister believes that any procrastination in implementation means an obstruction of the Arab initiative.

Circles close to Prime Minister al-Huss expect him to visit Damascus next week to consult with the Syrian officials on certain security and political matters that concern the area and their repercussions on the situation in Lebanon.

AL-ASAD RETURNS TO DAMASCUS; ALGIERS STATEMENT REPORTED

JN3017187Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad returned here at 1630 today after conveying condolences and participating in the funeral of late President Houari Boumediene. This participation was a manifestation of brotherhood and a sign expressing solidarity with the fraternal Algerian people and government in their grievous misfortune.

The participation was appreciated by Algerian officials and citizens, who viewed President al-Asad's presence as a symbol of sincerity and devotion and an expression of the ties of brotherhood and joint struggle between President al-Asad and the late president, Houari Boumedi'ene.

President al-Asad deeply and sincerely expressed Syria's participation with fraternal Algeria in its sorrow. President al-Asad also asserted Syria's support for Algeria under all circumstances and for Algeria's struggle to build the Arab and socialist Algeria and strengthen the line that the late president had pursued aimed at promoting Algeria's pan-Arab and international role in supporting freedom and the peoples' struggle.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr Shakir al-Fahham, minister of higher education, returned aboard the president's plane.

Before leaving Algiers at 1230 today, President al-Asad made a statement in reply to a question by the Algerian Radio correspondent. He said: As I said upon my arrival 2 days ago, I came to bid farewell to my friend President Houari Boumediene and to participate with the great Algerian people in the funeral of the late president.

President al-Asad said: In as much as the Algerian people expressed sorrow over the loss of the late president, these people have at the same time expressed their adherence to the political line, the Arab line and socialist line the late president had pursued. President al-Asad said: We are confident that the Algerian people, who rallied around President Boumediene and supported his march, will also rally around the Algerian leadership, which worked alongside the late president.

President al-Asad said: We wish the Algerian people and leadership progress and success. We will continue to always be on the side of these people and this leadership.

Before his departure, President al-Asad met with the Algerian Embassy staff in Algiers in the presence of 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Addressing the embassy staff, President al-Asad said that the departure of President Houari Boumediene is a great loss. President al-Asad asked the staff to convey his greetings to the Syrian community in Algeria.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM GRANTS INTERVIEW TO IRAQI TV

JN0211Y4Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 1 Jan 79 JN

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister and the head of the Syrian side to the meetings of the Syrian-Iraqi Political, Information and Cultural Joint Committee, has stated that the Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement and the signing of the Charter for Joint Action has created a new reality to face the present Arab state of affairs resulting from the Camp David agreements between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist enemy.

In a statement to Iraqi Television, Khaddam said that those who planned the Camp David agreements wanted to create a new reality in the Arab region with the aim of taking Egypt out of the arena of struggle between the Arabs on the one hand and imperialism and Zionism on the other. Khaddam said they were able to achieve this aim because the Camp David agreements have taken Egypt out of the struggle between the Arabs and their enemies and created a common political background between the Zionist enemy and the Egyptian regime. This, Khaddam added, constitutes a new reality which is now faced by the Arab nation and which they must foil and destroy.

The foreign minister said: The National Charter of Joint Action between the two countries is not only the decisive and historic answer to the results of the Camp David agreements but is also a new stage which restores the importance of Arab unity. Khaddam added that due to the present Arab situation this Arab unity does not occupy its natural place.

Khaddam said that the issue of unity between the two regions will put unity in its proper perspective; hence the importance of the National Charter of Joint Action as we understand it.

Concluding his statement, Khaddam said that Syria and Iraq are working now with all their efforts to guarantee the implementation of the charter between the two countries.

The Joint Political, Information and Cultural Committee will hold its first meeting this evening to discuss and deal with the issues on its agenda.

ALGERIA

BOUTEFLIKA SPEAKS AT BOUMEDIENE'S FUNERAL

LD092135 [Editorial Report LD] Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic at 1050 GMT on 29 December begins carrying live coverage of Boumediene's funeral. The radio begins by listing the visiting delegations, adding those of Guinea-Bissau, led by President Luis Cabral; of Vietnam, led by a vice premier who is not named by the radio; and two delegations from Egypt, one led by Justice Minister Ahmad 'Ali Musa and the other by socialist Labor Party leader Ibrahim Shukri.

The radio then begins describing the funeral procession through the streets of Algiers, as follows: At 1210 GMT the coffin is carried from the People's Palace and placed on a gun carriage by members of the Council of the Revolution and army officers. The cortege moves slowly through the streets to prayers at the grand mosque, and then on to Aliyah cemetery, where, the announcer says, many of those who fell in the liberation war are buried.

At the cemetery gates the coffin is carried from the gun carriage by army officers, followed by members of the Council of the Revolution and government and leaders of foreign delegations, of whom Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi and Syria's Al-Asad are named.

At 1445 GMT the funeral oration begins. The speaker is unannounced, and is only identified afterward as Abdelaziz Bouteflika, the minister of foreign affairs. He speaks as follows: "[Words indistinct] in their name and the name of your great people, how can I find words, Boumediene, (?to express their feeling)? I feel them in the cohesion and unity of our people; [words indistinct] in the eyes of the workers whom you have turned into producers [word indistinct]. I see them in the eyes of the Fallahin whom you brought out from their hut dwellings and to whom you gave dignified dwellings. I see them in the ambition of youth for whom you opened the road of strength and honor. I see them in [word indistinct] of the national people's army to whom you handed the banner of the liberation army."

Paying tribute to what Boumediene did for Algeria, Bouteflika continues:

"These masses which have gathered here from every corner of the country have come to lament not only your departure but also [to praise] your determination to stand for your principles and your loyalty to the ideals which were enshrined by our noble martyrs with their blood and for which our people sacrificed their sons. They admire your devotion to the establishment of a strong and lasting state which does not disappear with the departure of its leaders, a state which pursues the road of socialism and is based on popular institutions. These masses admire your untiring efforts to enhance Algeria's standing in international organizations, making it the Mecca of revolutionaries, sanctuary for the free and an example to be emulated in principled stances and in the mobilization of indigenous resources to achieve progress and development. The people from whom you came, O Boumediene, are proud of you. You will lie here as guardian of their trust and the people will cherish your memory and continue their advance."

Bouteflika continues his tribute:

"The masses of the people have come here not to bid you farewell but to pledge you that their dedication will continue. They have come not to attend your funeral, O Boumediene, but to pledge to you that they will continue their struggle and construction and to protect the socialist revolution and its material and moral gains."

Bouteflika promises that the peoples of the Arab world, Africa and the Western Sahara will continue to struggle for dignity and against tryany, and goes on:

"We pledge to you that we will continue our march on the course set by you, that we will follow in your **footsteps** and that we will earn the trust you placed in us."

He concludes his speech thus:

"Rest assured, for the masses after you will continue to be mobilized under the leadership of the National Liberation Front [FLN] to continue their course. You spent your life shouldering great tasks, so rest assured the march of the revolution will continue under the banner of the FLN to achieve what you set as your objective."

The speech ends at 1520 GMT and the speaker is identified the announcer as "brother Abdelaziz Bouteflika."

The ceremony ends with trumpeters playing the last post and readings from the Koran, and the radio coverage of the proceedings ends at 1525 GMT.

BITAT RECEIVES KUZNETSOV, DPRK VICE PRESIDENT, PRC VICE PREMIER

LD3116Z8Y Algiers APS in French 1200 GMT 31 Dec 78 LD

[Summary] Algiers, 31 Dec--"Rabih Bitat, head of state, received at the office of the president of the republic yesterday morning the Soviet delegation led by Vasiliy Kuznetsov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Col Chadly Bendjedid, member of the Council of the Revolution and commander of the 2d Military District, attended the meeting.

"The head of state has also received the DPRK delegation led by Tak Seung-tchi, [as received; presumably Pak Song-chol] the DPRK vice president."

"The head of state received the same morning the delegation of the People's Republic of China, led by Keng Piao, vice premier of the State Council."

The head of state also received the delegations of Somalia and Chad.

BITAT CHAIRS NATIONAL DEFENSE SESSION 31 DEC

LD3213Z6Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1902 GMT 31 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Today, brother Rabih Bitat head of state, chaired a meeting at the Ministry of National Defense comprising the secretary general of the National Defense Ministry, commanders of the military districts, central administrators and heads of units.

During this meeting, officers of the people's national army stressed their firm adherence to the constitutional legality and to the implementation of the provisions of the constitution, respect of the national charter and also the revolutionary continuity and the preservation of its gains.

Also today, Brother Habib Bitat received in audience the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic delegation led by Muhammad Abd al-Aziz, secretary general of POLISARIO.

1979 Budget

LD5123367 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 31 Dec 78 LD

[Summary] Brother Habib Bitat, head of state, signed this afternoon the text which stipulated the issuance of the 1979 finance law and state budget. Members of the Council of the Revolutionary and government were present. The 1979 expenditure is estimated at 36.881 billion dinars, an increase of 4.416 billion dinars on last year's. The administrative budget is 20.621 billion dinars; expenditure on capital investment is 16.26 billion dinars. There will be an increase in the education budget of 737.3 million dinars and there will be an increase in the higher education and scientific research budget of 163.5 million dinars.

BITAT CHAIRS REVOLUTION COUNCIL SESSION 1 JAN

LD0120587 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The Council of the Revolution met today under the chairmanship of Habib Bitat, the head of state, to study the arrangements connected with the enforcement of the constitution. It was decided at this meeting to hold the FLN party congress at the time stipulated in the constitution. In this connection a national preparatory commission has been set up.

LIBYA

DPRK VICE PRESIDENT PAK SONG-CHOL ARRIVES IN LIBYA

LD3021217 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 30 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpt] DPRK Vice President Pak Song-chol and an accompanying delegation arrived at Tripoli International Airport this evening for an official visit to the Jamahiriyah scheduled to last for a few days. There was an official welcome for the guest headed by Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud. Also welcoming the guest were the brothers secretaries and diplomats accredited to the Jamahiriyah.

In a statement to a JANA reporter, Pak Song-chol said: I come as a special envoy of President Kim Il-song and with the desire to expand and develop relations of cooperation and friendship between the Jamahiriyah and the DPRK.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Pak Song-chol

LD0120417 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD

[Text] This evening Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received Pak Song-chol, vice president of the Korean Democratic Republic, who delivered a written message from the Korean president, Kim Il-song.

Tour of Libyan Enterprises

LD0210944Y Tripoli JANA in English 0803 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Jan 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The vice-president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea accompanied by Eng. Jum'ah al-Arbash, the electricity secretary and head of the protocol commission, have toured the textile factory in Zanzur, the Seventh of October dairy products factory and the oil refinary in Az-Zawiyah. The guest was shown, during the visit, the different establishments and departments of the huge industrial project. At the end of the journey, the Korean vice-president expressed his admiration for the huge achievements of the Great First of September Revolution in different fields in the Jamahiriyah.

In a message written in the visitors record, he said "we came to know the epics of the Libyan people's struggle to develop the national industry, through our visit of these industrial projects, under the wise leadership of the Great First of September Revolution where this people have achieved a huge success in building the base of the national industry on a strong scientific bases."

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM BREZHNEV

LD0118222Y Tripoli JANA in English 1631 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Jan 1, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The leader of the Great 1st of September Revolution and secretary general of the General People's congress, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, received a message of congratulations on the Gregorian new year from Leonid Brezhnev, the chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party.

JALLUD RECEIVES PALESTINIAN LEADERS IN TRIPOLI

LD0210104Y Tripoli JANA in English 0807 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Jan 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Staff-major Jalluad yesterday received Mr. Na'if Hawatimah, secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, at the People's Palace in Tripoli.

He also received Dr. Samir Ghusha, secretary-general of the Popular Struggle Front.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI SPEAKS ON SUDAN'S 23D NATIONAL ANNIVERSARY

JN0119297Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 1 Jan 79 JN

[Speech by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri on 1 January on the 23d anniversary of national independence]

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 1 January--[Passage indistinct] brothers, the May revolution is a call to national unity, affiliation and loyalty. The May revolution is a call to raising the homeland above parties, communities, sects, class differences.

The May revolution, brothers, is the messenger of comprehensive national unity, the unity of Sudan and the Sudanese, which does not distinguish one citizen from another and which is not partial to one region against the other.

Brothers, we must realize that work is the only way to achieve progress and prosperity. It is the only way to raise our people's standard of living, to fulfill basic needs and services required by our society and homeland.

The struggle to build the new Sudan requires personal efforts by everyone. It requires firmness and seriousness. Work and production are in need of men of production who will achieve, pioneering men who can shoulder responsibility and are not afraid of obstacles, do not shun responsibility and do not hesitate to make decisions.

Brothers, we have nearly completed the first phase of the scheme of job reorganization. We have raised the minimum wage level throughout the homeland and have laid down new regulations organizing production relations in irrigated agriculture. As a result of these reforms, our people will shoulder a huge burden, totalling about 100 million pounds.

Brothers, we shall remain a moderate and peaceful force and a factor of stability in both Africa and the Arab world. We shall be a peaceful force that seeks to solve disputes peacefully and by the logic of peace. This logic rejects chauvinism and dictating of viewpoints. It requires flexibility and realism. We fully realize that violent methods in practice among African countries and the bloody struggles among their various nationalities will lead Africa toward foreign hegemony and influence. [passage indistinct] the ordeals of millions who fled from their homelands, houses and families.

Famine and epidemics are taking away thousands of Africa's sons. Many die from need and illness after suffering long agonies. The only thing we can do is save the other sons from the fires of artillery and bombs. Military solutions can only impose a temporary calm. They are never capable of dealing with the causes of troubles, and they do not contribute to building a just and lasting peace.

Independent Africa is in no need of weapons arsenals. Independent Africa is more in need of tractors and dams than tanks and forts. Africa's real friends should supply it with what it needs. Africa's friends should respond to Africa's urgent need to combat hunger, epidemics, backwardness.

Brother free revolutionaries, the armed forces of independent Africa are those of developing countries that should not launch campaigns of aggression or be led by the greed of expansion. I repeat that these forces are to protect the national entity amid popular support and patriotic enthusiasm. The armed forces role must not be limited to protecting the national entity and defending it. They must also fully participate in building the national entity itself and supporting its pillars.

Let our brothers in Africa and Africa's friends be informed that our armed forces will not be forces of aggression, invasion or oppression. Our armed forces are forces to build peace and help in providing the requisites of peace and prosperity. They are armed forces to build the homeland's unity. They are the forces of national security, national unity and national development. Our armed forces will not relinquish their pan-Arab responsibilities and obligations no matter what the cost or the sacrifices.

Brothers, we shall remain a factor of moderation and stability in our African Continent and Arab homeland. We shall not act out of intransigence, conceit or chauvinism. We shall protect our national interests and preserve our national dignity while appreciating the interests and dignity of others. We shall not interfere in anybody's affairs, nor permit others to interfere in ours. We shall not take part in outbiddings, oneupmanship and villification campaigns. Our proud people will never accept tutelage, interference and imposition of will from anyone. Our proud people will not accept any harm to their sovereignty and their free will.

The building of peace and strengthening of stability requires a high sense of responsibility, which cannot be shouldered by those who hide behind smokescreens and the clamor of slogans.

Brothers, we shall not adopt the policy of axes in our regional and international relations. We shall not have our independent will depend on alinement. However, we shall not enclose ourselves in a shell and remain isolated. We are a country completely linked to the outside world, proud of its Arab, African and Islamic affiliation. We look for partners in development beyond geographic and cultural barriers, differences in regimes and ideologies.

Brothers, we are proud of our affiliation to the Third World, which is struggling to definitively liquidate all kinds of colonialism, discrimination and hegemony.

We are watching with interest the dialog between the EEC and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries [ACP] for the renewal of the Lome Convention, which expires in March 1980. President Numayri added that Sudan is looking to sign a new convention, God willing, in Khartoum in mid-1979. This convention will meet ACP's needs in the next stage in the sphere of trade, industrial and agricultural development, in the construction of regional projects and in financial and technical cooperation.

Africa is in need of economic and technical assistance. Africa needs to develop its resources, build its economic infrastructure, raise its standard of living. Africa is not in need of disputes among ideologies. Africa is not in need of power struggles. Africa is capable of finding African solutions to its political, economic and social problems, and does not need the interference of others.

In your name, I hail the new development in Chinese-U.S. relations and the return of normal relations between Japan and China. We consider this development an important factor in building peace and stability in the world. A strong and developed China will be a decisive factor in the international balance of power and in the balanced international relations.

These are the principles of our foreign policy. They are strength, peace, moderation and a factor of stability and struggle for a better new world where exploitation, discrimination and despotism will have no place.

BEGIN ANNOUNCES CABINET DECISIONS ON NEGOTIATIONS

NC3112239Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 31 Dec 78 NC

[Text] The cabinet has decided to continue the negotiations with Egypt. No date has yet been set. Prime Minister Begin has just made this statement.

[Begin recording] The cabinet resolves:

1. The cabinet had a report from the foreign minister on the Brussels talks.

2. The cabinet reconfirms its resolution on December 15, 1978, in all its parts.

3. In accordance with this decision, and its previous announcements, the government expresses its readiness to continue negotiations with Egypt; to reach an agreed text of the letter concerning the autonomy arrangements without setting a target date; and on the clarification of paragraph 4 of Article IV of the peace treaty without determining in advance any mandatory date for a review of the security arrangements.

4. The cabinet takes note of the letter of the foreign minister of December 28, 1978, to the secretary of state of the United States which rejects completely the U.S. interpretation of Article VI of the peace treaty. Israel will approach the U.S. Government with the view to insuring the sole and unequivocal meaning of this article of the peace treaty.

Fourteen members of the cabinet voted in favor, two did not participate in the vote and one of the ministers abstained.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, if the negotiations with Egypt are resumed, do you have any preferance where to hold the negotiations?

[Answer] No, I don't have any preference. We didn't study this question. When it will come up, we shall make a proper decision.

[Question] When do you think the talks will get underway again?

[Answer] Well, I suppose during the week, during the next week. I cannot say. We'll be in touch with the American Government during the day on this issue.

[Question] Will they be in Washington?

[Answer] I don't exclude anyplace. But we didn't start yet any talks about it.

[Question] Do you have any preferance?

[Answer] No. We don't have any preferance yet. [end recording]

Further on Cabinet Decisions

TA3114019Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 31 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Israel has already informed the United States of the cabinet decision. Our political correspondent has learned that at noon the formula of the cabinet decision was telephoned to the U.S. ambassador in Israel, Samuel Lewis. Jerusalem expects activity by the U.S. administration this week toward the possibility of the resumption of the negotiations.

Our political correspondent has also learned that Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman and Minister Hayyim Landau did not participate in the vote on the cabinet decision, while Minister Ari'el Sharon abstained. In all, 14 ministers supported the decision.

Weizman, Sharon, Landau Views Reported

TA0107?2Y Jerusalem POST in English 1 Jan 79 p 1 TA

[By Asher Wallfish]

[Excerpts] The cabinet yesterday offered to negotiate further with Egypt about the arrangements for implementing autonomy in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, and about security arrangements in Sinai. It also undertook to discuss with the U.S. the section of Article VI of the draft peace treaty, which spells out the treaty's relationship to Egypt's inter-Arab security commitments.

However, the cabinet said, there will be no target date for implementation of the autonomy plan; there will be no mandatory date for a review of security arrangements in Sinai; and the interpretation of Article VI of the treaty to be worked out with Washington will have to be unambiguous with no reservations.

Fourteen ministers voted for this decision, one abstained and two did not take part in the vote.

Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon abstained on the vote. He is believed to have objections about the principle of reviewing the security arrangements in the Sinai, since he feels it would place an awkward burden on the army if it could not plan long-term strategy on the southern front.

Since the cabinet met as the Ministerial Defence Committee, it is not known what Sharon said in the cabinet session--nor the two ministers who did not take part in the vote, Defence Minister 'Ezer Weizman and Minister Without Portfolio Hayyim Landau.

Weizman told colleagues later that he had no patience to take part in the vote because the affair had already been dragged out for more than a year--far too long, in his opinion.

Weizman said he had already said what he wanted to say, and had voted quite often enough. He also criticized ministers for "casting doubt" on the way he and Dayan conducted the last phases of the negotiations with Egypt.

Landau's non-participation in the vote yesterday reflected his known view that the entire peace pact was an "illusion." Landau is said to believe that Israel should not sign away any part of Sinai before Egypt agreed to a satisfactory arrangement with regard to Judaea, Samaria and Gaza.

Last night Landau described yesterday's cabinet vote as dealing with "fragmentary issues."

Ne'or said the general appraisal of ministers was that the government's willingness to negotiate the various points would make it possible for Egypt, too, to agree to carry on talking, especially since Egypt at no time had indicated that it considered the negotiations at an end.

Begin said on emerging from the session that he expected talks to resume next week. He did not know where the talks would take place and had no preference for the venue, for the time being at least.

A few minutes after the session ended, the resolution was telephoned to U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis.

The administration in Washington is expected to make plans this week for the resumption of contacts, on the basis of the cabinet decision, provided a positive message is received in Washington from the Egyptians.

CABINET TO DISCUSS AUTONOMY BEFORE SIGNING PEACE TREATY

TA011229 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Jan 79 p 2 TA

[By 'Uzzi Benziman]

[Text] The cabinet is to hold a debate on the nature of autonomy before signing a peace agreement with Egypt--a promise in this spirit was given to several ministers yesterday by the prime minister.

For several weeks now Ministers Sharon, Hammer, Landau and Noda'i have been demanding that a debate be held in the cabinet on the nature of autonomy in order to guarantee internal agreement on the principles of self-rule even before the negotiations with Egypt on this matter begin. Up to now Mr Begin has rejected this demand. Yesterday several ministers were told that no peace agreement would be signed with Egypt before the cabinet itself formulates a clear and agreed definition of the nature of the autonomy it intends to establish in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Principles to be decided upon in the cabinet will direct it in its contacts with Egypt over this matter.

It is known that there were again angry exchanges between Ministers Dayan and Sharon in the consultations held yesterday. The minister of agriculture said that he had become aware that Israel's representatives in the Washington talks deviated from cabinet decisions and that they had not always protected Israel's interests. The foreign minister reacted angrily, to the effect that not only had Israel conceded during the negotiations, but that Egypt also had changed its positions.

It is further known that Minister Yitzhaq Noda'i yesterday at one of the consultations expressed the evaluation that Israel would have to find a way to cut itself off from the negotiations with Egypt because they were developing in a direction undesirable for Israel, and it could be confronted with grave results.

A draft proposal for a debate on autonomy was formulated by Minister Ari'el Sharon and it reads: The cabinet will debate the nature of autonomy in all its aspects and will agree on its position on this matter before it decides to sign the expected peace agreement with Egypt.

NARROW DEFINITION OF 'AGGRESSION' SOUGHT IN TREATY

TA011209Y Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Jan 79 pp 1, 2 TA

[By 'Uzzi Benziman]

[Text] Foreign Minister Dayan is working toward reaching a detailed definition with Egypt and the United States of the word "aggression" so that its meaning will cover the maximum that can be foreseen, and thus respond to Egypt's demand that its right to honor its previous commitments made to other Arab countries in case they should find themselves in a "defensive war" with Israel be recognized.

Along these lines, the foreign minister proposes, among other things, that an agreement be reached with the United States and Egypt that an Israeli response to terrorist aggression--or the very fact that it remains in the occupied territories--not be defined as aggression. It appears that Dayan's intention is the basis of yesterday's cabinet decision, agreeing to discuss with the United States and Egypt an agreed-upon interpretation of Article VI of the peace treaty.

This HA'ARETZ correspondent notes that Article VI has two paragraphs which lead to Egypt's demand that they be clarified: paragraph 2, which guarantees the treaty's validity with respect to developments on other fronts and paragraph 5, which grants the treaty preference over commitments which the parties have with other elements.

According to the Egyptian demand, paragraph 2 will be clarified by an "accompanying letter," which will state that the agreement is linked with attaining a comprehensive arrangement in the Middle East, whereas paragraph 5 will be clarified by a U.S. legal opinion. Such an opinion has been submitted and it says that the agreement does not negate the right of the sides to honor military commitments they have with other countries in the event that these countries find themselves in a defensive war as a result of aggression by any country. The significance of this opinion is that Egypt is not, despite its peace agreement with Israel, prevented from joining in a war against Israel if it is considered by one of the Arab countries to be an act of Israel aggression. So far as is known, Israel is now prepared, with the United States, to move toward the formulation of an agreed opinion which will interpret paragraph 5 in a manner that will, as far as possible, cut down the number of situations in which it will be possible to define Israel as an aggressor. This will, on the surface, neutralize the State Department's opinion, according to which Egypt is entitled to join in a war against Israel if the latter is considered to be the aggressor. However, the Israeli willingness to open contacts in this direction will not apply to paragraph 2 of Article VI.

On this matter, Jerusalem's position is that the paragraph should be left as it is and no "accompanying letter" should be added to it, as Egypt is demanding, and which, in Israel's understanding, would change the significance of the article, and particularly the trend toward guaranteeing the stability of the agreement and the fact that it does not depend on developments in other sectors (including the implementation of the autonomy program).

In one of the consultations held in Jerusalem yesterday, the prime minister said that Israel would not sign an agreement with Egypt if the original character of Article VI were changed. Mr Begin's remarks also applied to Israel's (current) refusal to agree to any form of clarification on the matter of paragraph 2 and also to the demand to come to an agreed definition of the term "aggression" in the legal interpretation of paragraph 5.

The government's new position--expressing willingness to discuss an agreed interpretation of paragraph 5--comes after Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance expressing opposition to the State Department's legal opinion, and protesting the fact that it had been presented to Israel unilaterally, without prior coordination. This letter was only sent 3 days ago--despite the fact that the opinion was sent to Israel more than 2 weeks ago--and there are those who expressed the view last night that its dispatch was a move intended to make it easier for Dayan and Begin to get the decision approved by the cabinet yesterday.

"Ar'el Sharon refrained from voting at the 31 December cabinet session because he wanted to express his dissatisfaction at the way the negotiations were being conducted by Ministers Dayan and Weizman and their aides. The minister of agriculture holds the view that the negotiating team did not carry out cabinet decisions and deviated from its directives and that, in the course of the contacts with Egypt, had made promises and expressed positions which came back to the cabinet like a boomerang and forced it to agree to concessions which were unnecessary. In accordance with this mood, Sharon, by abstaining from voting, tried to signal that when the debate approached the future of Judaea and Samaria and the Gaza Strip, he would no longer accept the way the negotiations have been conducted to date."

BEGIN TELLS EDITORS: NO AGREEMENT TO PALESTINIAN STATE

TA2917111Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1505 GMT 29 Dec 78 TA

[From the Weekly Newsreel]

[Text] Oil drilling in Iran has stopped and there are indications that the world is beginning to fear an energy crisis. Today the prime minister spoke about the oil crisis here. [begin recording]

[Begin--in English] We have a commitment given to us by the United States that in case that we lose any source of supply of oil, the United States will give us that supply instead for 5 years. And this commitment stands, as I heard from the first source personally. [end recording]

On 29 November, each year, the prime minister is the guest of the Council of Newspaper Editors. This year, due to the pressure of events, this traditional meeting was postponed until 29 December. Our political correspondent Shalom Qital was present at that meeting, and he brings excerpts from the prime minister's words.

[Begin recording] [Qital] Two days before the cabinet's political session, Prime Minister Menahem Begin says that we have not closed any doores and that we are prepared to renew the negotiations. One must express the hope, he says, that the peace treaty--as the first step toward attaining peace in the Middle East--will indeed be signed.

Begin was asked to comment on the statement yesterday by Egyptian Acting Foreign Minister Dr Butrus Ghali favoring the establishment of a Palestinian state.

[Begin] The statements of Mr Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian acting foreign minister, are not binding on Israel. What he said contradicts the Camp David accords. According to the Camp David agreement, we decided not to establish a Palestinian state but rather to grant the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza autonomy and to insure that there is real security for Israel and its citizens in those areas and that there is no threat to Israel's security from those areas. That is why Butrus Ghali's statement totally contradicts the Camp David agreement.

As for the idea itself, we do not accept it. A Palestinian state will not be established. If it were established in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, it would constitute a direct danger not to Israel's security, but to its very existence, and we have never discussed--either with President Carter or the Egyptian delegation--any possibility of agreement on our part to the establishment of a Palestinian state.

[Qital] This was a comment on remarks made by the Egyptian acting foreign minister. The prime minister was also asked to comment on the view attributed to Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan on the need to find an agreed-upon formula on the interpretation of Article VI.

[Begin] I do not have to read the papers to find out the foreign minister's views. I have heard them from him, both directly and in a personal conversation, and also at the cabinet session. There are no differences of opinion between us. As for Article VI, paragraphs 2 and 5--these paragraphs must not be changed, and this is also the foreign minister's opinion.

[Qital] As for the relations with the United States, the prime minister said:

[Begin] If the method practiced 2 weeks ago had returned--when the secretary of state brought from Cairo the famous interpretative lists--I would have said that this was a bad method and that this was not the way to treat a friend and ally, and I would have added that, in fact, this is also what we have said all along. In other words, I would have repeated this opinion. Our decision, as expressed in the cabinet and Knesset decisions, currently enjoys widespread support, above all from all of U.S. Jewry, which is united over this stance of Israel. I have also received cables from other Jewish communities around the world, containing the same message. We are with you.

[Gital] Such support, Begin says, was received from various organizations as well as from most of the U.S. press.

[Begin] I think that this is a very nice and positive phenomenon, and we have reason to feel satisfaction over it and we should continue to explain our position and our insistence, and we have a good chance of imprinting on the minds of people the recognition that the reference here is not to what someone had called legal definitions--here we are talking out the main contents, the real meaning of a peace treaty. The attempt was--through what was called interpretative lists--to divest the main articles of the peace treaty of their contents, and world public opinion supports our stance, according to which this must be a peace treaty, a treaty for real peace and not a document which in fact has no meaning as a peace treaty.

[Gital] The prime minister was asked several questions about settlements, to which he replied laconically: There has been settlement and there will be settlement. As for this week's Gush Emunim settlement activity, he says: They had no permission. A short sentence, and no more.

Was there no change in his personal view of the world, Begin was asked, a change which occurred during his term in office?

[Begin] The answer is clear: I have not changed my views, and that is why we did not accept the idea of a Palestinian state--of a boundary within Israel which would separate Judaea, Samaria and Gaza on the one hand and the State of Israel as it existed up to the 6-Day War--and I persist in maintaining these principles, as I have always believed in them. We want to bring about--through the autonomy arrangements--a situation whereby we will be able to live together, Jews and Arabs in an unpartitioned Eretz Yisra'el, to have Jewish settlement activity and still have Jews and Arabs in an unpartitioned Eretz Yisra'el. Just as there is Arab life together with Jewish life in other parts of the country, so they will be able to live together in another part of the country. This is our stance in principle and we have worked toward that end and will continue to work toward it.

[Gital] As for domestic affairs, or shall we call them, those within the cabinet.

[Begin] True, there are differences of opinion between the ministers. There is no harm in that. Gentlemen, we are living in a democratic country and it is no secret and no surprise that in all the countries which have a parliamentary, democratic regime there are differences of opinion within the cabinet. This is one of the proofs that democracy exists, and we are fortunate to have democracy. It is better to have a democracy with differences of opinion between ministers than not to have a democracy and only have one voice heard.

[Qital] On the voice of Energy and Infrastructure Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i, who expressed criticism of the fact that the Finance Ministry officials, who are also MAPAI members, are driving wedges between the ministers:

[Begin] I am not identifying with any criticism expressed about civil servants. We did not determine the structure of the national mechanism according to partisan affiliation and the arrangement of the Finance Ministry employees is determined by the finance minister.

[Qital] A question about morals and values for the future. Do you, Mr Prime Minister, not fear--an Orthodox Jewish correspondent asks him--that peace carries with it dangers of assimilation, moral decline as a result of the open borders?

[Begin] May we only have peace. We shall deal with all the problems connected with it. No, my friend. I do not fear assimilation and other negative phenomena. When there is peace, we shall take care that there will not be orphans or bereavement, that there won't be any more wars or bloodshed and that there will be personal and humane, cultural and commercial ties. I think all this will be to our nation's benefit. Our nation is strong enough to withstand assimilation in this part of the world. [end recording]

Comments on Refugees

TA2917267 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 29 Dec 78 TA

[Excerpt] Israel and Egypt agreed at Camp David to set up a committee which will deal with the return of refugees, but no figure was mentioned. The return of 150,000 refugees was not mentioned at all. Prime Minister Menahem Begin said at the annual dinner with newspaper editors.

IL 500 MILLION SPENT ON SINAI PULLBACK SO FAR

TA3019197 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 30 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Military Correspondent Nir reports that the IDF has already spent about 500 million Israeli pounds on preparations for the IDF's withdrawal from Sinai and its redeployment in the Negev. Our correspondent has learned that this sum is part of the budget of nearly 2 billion pounds slated for only the first stage of the withdrawal from Sinai.

DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER OUTLINES REDEPLOYMENT IN NEGEV

TA0206387 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 2 Jan 79 TA

[Text] In the negotiations with Egypt over a peace agreement, Israel has passed the point of no return and even if there are delays and difficulties, the peace agreement will be signed. These remarks were made by Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Zippori in a lecture last night at Ben-Gurion University in Beersheba.

The deputy defense minister pointed out that it is necessary to continue to plan the IDF redeployment in the Negev and consider it, despite the current difficulties, as something which will indeed be put into operation in the near future. Our military correspondent Romi Dani'el reports:

The IDF redeployment map in the Negev has in fact been completed through joint planning by all the government ministries. The IDF, said the deputy defense minister, will establish itself in several large concentrations; in each of these zones military bases will be established, including depots of various kinds, the intention is also to bring to these places fruitful civilian activity. Military academies and training installations will be transferred to the Negev.

In Kirpe Ramon Defense Ministry apartments have been frozen and are now being kept for military staff, if they decide to settle there. The Tel Halhata area is designated for a military airfield and has already been closed off. The area allocated, Mordekhay Zippori said, is large enough for the military airfield to be turned into a civilian one and for the establishment of various aviation industries when the time comes.

[Zippori--recorded] I would indicate another point which is worth noticing. There are advantages and disadvantages in large and small distances; in any case, the army redeployment in these places, as I said, also provides an answer to the eastern front and if the threat from Saudi Arabia becomes real, the same applies. [end recording]

The agricultural areas have also been defined: the Qerem Shalom approaches, a strip along the border line with 'En Yahav in its center and a similar strip in the area of Serofit. A new settlement is being established in Ramat Hanegev and a road with important political significance will connect 'Arad with Bet She'an, passing close to Hebron and Ma'ale Haehumin.

LABOR PARTY DEMANDS GOVERNMENT CURB GUSH EMUNIM

TA0115397Y Tel Aviv HA'ARIV in Hebrew 1 Jan 79 p 4 TA

[By M. Shemariyahu]

[Text] Last night the Labor Party called on the government to curb the activity of Gush Emunim.

The party's reaction team believed that the recent scandalous activity of Gush Emunim at the Machpelah Cave and their risky programs concerning the Temple Mount could again ignite feelings of hatred between Jews and Arabs and arouse pointless and purposeless strife. The monster is turning against its creator. Gush Emunim, which was fostered by the current prime minister when he was head of the opposition, is now rising up to damage the chances for peace. Only about 500 people are moving from place to place, setting up imaginary settlements, making relations with the Arab population tense, uprooting them and bringing the situation in the West Bank to the brink of a dangerous conflagration.

SIX WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS PLANNED FOR 1979

TA0112947Y Tel Aviv HA'ARIV in Hebrew 1 Jan 79 p 3 TA

[By Yosef Dari'el]

[Text] If there are no far-reaching changes in Israel's foreign policy, then in the coming fiscal year only six new settlements will be added to Judaea and Samaria--three of them in the Jordan Rift Valley.

It was learned from various sources yesterday that all the settlement elements are unanimously agreed that this year (1979) should be devoted mainly to fleshing out the settlements, particularly those recently established in the Samaria region.

According to a conservative estimate, the Zionist agency's settlement division will be asked to invest about 50 million Israeli pounds this year in each of the existing settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

Parallel with this investment in existing settlements, there is a "minimal program" according to which six new settlements will be established during the year. This program, so it was reported yesterday, meets the financial needs of the settlement elements and the political considerations of the government.

As for Qiryat Arba', it is known that, according to the original program, the Ministry of Housing should have begun the construction of 100 new housing units in the coming months. Yesterday it was learned that it is not at all clear whether this program will in fact be put into operation. It may be that the inhabitants will be content with the "build-your-home" program which includes only 35 houses.

As opposed to this, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Jewish Agency Settlement Department intend to invest relatively large sums in the establishment of new settlements in the 'Arava and in getting the existing settlements in this area better established--toward the peace agreement with Egypt.

Rabbi Moshe Levinger, a member of the Gush Emunim secretariat, said last night that the government's credibility will only return when it begins on a broad settlement impetus throughout Eretz Yisra'el.

SHARON REAFFIRMS FLESHING OUT OF QATIF AREA

TA0116Z1Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 1 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon reiterated today that, in addition to three new settlements, a regional center will be set up in the Qatif District in the Gaza Strip. The first settlement will be set up when the nucleus designated to establish it finishes its training in the Bene Darom. This report is from our correspondent Mikha Friedman.

Further on Remarks

TA0117Z7Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 1 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon said that, as long as the peace agreement is not signed, the issue of moving the Sinai settlements to new sites should not be considered. When the agreement is signed, he said, planning will be done in conjunction with the residents of the evacuated settlements. Minister Sharon said this during a tour in the Rafah approaches.

Sharon also visited the Gush Qatif settlements in the Gaza Strip. He said that more people should be added to the existing Gush Qatif settlements and that people should be brought to the settlements planned to be established there.

WEIZMAN: IDF TO CONTINUE TO STOP ILLEGAL SETTLEMENT

TA3119ZY Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 31 Dec 78 TA

[Excerpt] This evening Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman told our correspondent that the IDF would continue to prevent settlements not approved by the government. The defense minister said this in reaction to the settlement attempt by the Nablus nucleus of Gush Emunim which tried to settle near Nablus this morning.

At this moment, the settlers of the nucleus are preparing for the night near the roadblock set up by the IDF on the Nablus-Qalqilyah Road. The settlers have announced that they will not leave the roadblock until they are permitted to pass and settle.

TERRORIST ACTIVITIES INCREASED IN DECEMBER

TA0112ZY Tel Aviv HAZOFE in Hebrew 1 Jan 79 p 2 TA

[Text] During the month of December there were 22 terrorist actions in Israel and the territories. In half of them the explosive charges were discovered in time and in the other cases the charges exploded. In five cases there were injured.

The Jerusalem ITIM correspondent points out that the number of incidents by terrorist organizations in Israel has again begun to increase after 2 months of an appreciable drop.

Last year there were more than 250 terrorist actions in Israel by hostile elements, including laying explosive charges, throwing handgrenades and firebombs, setting cars on fire, firing Katyusha rockets, attempts to blow up cars and booby-trapped boats and so on.

Up to last October the average number of terrorist actions each month came to 30-35. In October and November the number of actions was only 10. As stated, there was an increase again over the last month, both in the number of actions and in the number of people injured. The last day of the month an explosive charge went off in Netanya.

The ITIM correspondent adds that 15 of the terrorist actions in December were in Jerusalem, Judaea and Samaria. During that month a new phenomenon was noted of terrorist attempts to strike at Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria (explosive charges and firing by Katyushas).

The largest attack over the last 3 months of the year was on 19 November--the anniversary of President as-Sadat's visit to Israel--when an explosive charge went off in a bus near Mizpe Yeriho. Four people were killed and dozens injured in that attack.

The greatest number of people injured as a result of a terrorist strike in December occurred on the 17th of the month, when 22 people were injured in an explosion in a bus in the Bayt Vagan quarter of Jerusalem.

In recent days the security forces have prepared themselves for cooperation on a massive scale between the IDF, the police force and the civil guard and other security elements toward the possibility of attempts by terrorist organizations to step up their attacks in Israel even more in 1979.

The terrorists have recently announced such an aim. The minister of the interior and the civil guard command have warned of this publicly over the last few days.

WEIZMAN-SHARON SQUABBLE IN CABINET REPORTED

TA2914177 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 29 Dec 78 p 1 TA

[By Dalya Shehori]

[Text] There was a verbal clash this week during a ministerial consultation between Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon and Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman. During the exchange of remarks Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan took Weizman's side and an argument developed between Dayan and Sharon.

The minister of agriculture criticized Dayan's remarks after the Brussels talks regarding the need for compromise on Israel's part, too, and aroused the foreign minister's anger. Dayan demanded that Sharon go back to his farm, while Sharon suggested that Dayan occupy himself with his pots.

The argument apparently occurred following a proposal put forward by the minister of agriculture for establishing new footholds on the Golan Heights. The defense minister was opposed to the proposal, both from the aspect of its timing and of the site proposed by the minister of agriculture.

At a certain stage, when the argument had become heated, 'Ezer Weizman got up and said to Sharon that he could "no longer bear how that man speaks." He left the meeting room in the prime minister's office, slamming the door behind him, and went to another room, from which he phoned his office.

In the meantime the prime minister's military secretary, Brig Gen Efrayyim Poran, arrived, having been asked by Begin to beg Weizman to return to the debate. The defense minister returned to the meeting and a decision he proposed was accepted.

BEGIN, SWAZI PREMIER COMMENT ON FRIENDSHIP TIES

TA0207GMT Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 2 Jan 79 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] Prime Minister Begin last night expressed the hope that the friendship between Israel and Swaziland will continue to blossom and deepen in the future. Mr Begin made these remarks at a ceremonial banquet he held in honor of the prime minister of Swaziland, Maphevu Dlamini, who is now visiting Israel. The prime minister added that he hoped that the other African countries will also renew their relations with Israel. [begin recording]

[Begin--in English] We do hope that your country will serve as an example for many other African nations to renew their friendship with us, to cooperate with us and help each other as we did for many, many years. This is also a reason why we cherish our friendship with you, Mr Prime Minister, and we believe that when you come home and when you meet your colleagues, the African prime ministers, you will tell them what you and your colleagues, the members of the cabinet, and your advisers, saw for yourselves in this country. [end recording]

The guest, Prime Minister Maphevu Dlamini, thanked Israel for the aid it gives his country. [begin recording]

[Dlamini--in English] The kind assistance we have been receiving from Israel, from the Israeli people, has clearly demonstrated the fruitfulness of the warm relations between our two nations. It is our strong conviction and belief that the existing bonds of brotherhood between the Israeli and the Swazi people will continue to grow by leaps and bounds and that they will flourish, to the mutual benefit of our two nations. [end recording]

AZHARI RESUMES WORK 30 DEC FOLLOWING 'HEART AILMENT'

LD3007427 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 30 Dec 78 LD

[Text] General Azhari, the prime minister, went to the prime minister's office today and resumed his duty. The prime minister had been confined to bed following a heart ailment on Wednesday, 20 December. He returned to work today and resumed his duty.

SHAH RECEIVES NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, SENATE OFFICIALS

LD3009487 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 30 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The speaker of the National Consultative Assembly, the president of the Senate and the members of the Executive Council of the two bodies have had the honor of being received in audience by the Shahanshah aryamehr. They had discussions on the realm's current problems this morning.

NATIONAL FRONT EXPELS PREMIER-DESIGNATE BAKHTIAR

TA3016177 Paris AFP in English 1615 GMT 30 Dec 78 TA

[Excerpt] Tehran, Dec 30 (AFP)--The main opposition centre-left National Front leadership today unanimously decided to expel the shah's premier-designate, Shahpur Bakhtiar, the party announced.

The Central Committee of the National Front issued a statement "condemning" Mr Bakhtiar's agreement to form a government and affirming that under present conditions, his formation of a government "did not conform to the principles or the ideals of the organization of the National Front."

Mr Bakhtiar had acted "without taking account of the rules of discipline and organization of the party," the statement said, adding that the National Front had declared previously that it could not approve "any form of government combination with the illegal monarchic system."

TEHRAN REPORTS BAKHTIAR REMARK ON SHAH LEAVING IRAN

LD3108497 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 31 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The PARS NEWS AGENCY announced today that Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar is busy studying the formation of a civilian cabinet. After a long session with his friends and associates, Dr Bakhtiar said that according to parliamentary traditions, he will introduce his cabinet after the show of interest by the two houses, but he did not assign a date for this. He expressed hope of reaching an agreement by the end of the week.

Dr Bakhtiar, who is 63 and who was a close associate of Dr Mohammad Mosaddeq, said: In my audience with the shah, he agreed to my proposals for the formation of a cabinet. The probable future prime minister said: At this audience, the shah, while commenting on the issues facing the country, showed interest in going abroad for a period of treatment and rest at a convenient time, and I concurred in his views. Dr Bakhtiar said: Unfortunately, I could not reach agreement with Dr Sanjabi. He previously fell into such errors as the Pishavari story [Pishavari was an Azerbaijani leader associated with the Tudeh Party], and has a policy that I have nothing to do with. Notwithstanding the manner of those opposed to me, I will continue the way I have followed for 35 years.

In his interview with PARA, Dr Bakhtiar said: I deny any other news or report attributed to me outside this interview.

It is possible that the two houses will hold a joint session by tomorrow and express interest in favor of Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar forming a new cabinet.

AFP: SPOKESMEN DENIES SHAH HAS LEFT COUNTRY

BC311326Y Paris AFP in English 1320 GMT 31 Dec 78 BC

[Text] Tehran, Dec 31 (AFP)--An official spokesman today denied reports that the shah of Iran had left here for Paris this morning on an Air France flight. The shah was in his office in the Niayaran Palace here, his spokesman said at 4 p.m. (1230 GMT).

TEHRAN REPORTS AZHARI RESIGNATION, BAKHTIAR REMARKS

LD0109047Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD

[Text] General Azhari submitted his government's resignation to the shah last night. The following is the text of his letter of resignation:

As the current situation in the country requires a political solution to facilitate the progress of affairs, I beg your permission to submit my government's resignation to your majesty, and I hope that those who undertake the administration of affairs at this time will overcome the difficulties with the assistance of all the people who love their country and are anxious about its destiny.

[signed] Gen Gholam Reza Azhari.

The prime minister's resignation has been verbally accepted by the shah and his imperial majesty has ordered General Azhari to administer the country's affairs until the formation of a new government with the assistance of the deputy ministers. For this reason, it is expected that a decree by the shah reinstating General Azhari as prime minister for this period will be issued. Listeners will be informed of it as soon as it is issued.

According to law, until the formation of the next cabinet and the start of work by the next prime minister, the existing prime minister administers the country's affairs. It is being said that due to General Azhari's illness, one of his deputies will run the country's affairs until the formation of the future cabinet.

The PARS NEWS AGENCY announced yesterday that Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar is busy studying the formation of a civilian cabinet. After a long session with his friends and associates, Dr Bakhtiar said that, according to parliamentary traditions, following a show of interest by the two houses, he will introduce his cabinet. He did not, however, assign any date for this. He expressed hope that he would be able to reach an agreement by the end of the week.

Dr Bakhtiar, who is 63 and who was a close colleague of Dr Mohammad Mossadeq, said: At my audience with the shah he agreed to my proposals for the formation of a cabinet. In a telephone conversation with PARIS, Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar pointed out that he will continue his efforts for the formation of a cabinet. While referring to the country's sensitive position, he said he hopes to serve the homeland and the country in these sensitive days.

The possible future prime minister said: At this audience, the shah, while making remarks about the country's issues, showed interest in going abroad for treatment and rest at a convenient time and I concurred in his views.

SHAH ACCEPTS AZHARI GOVERNMENT'S RESIGNATION

LD0110487 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The shah's decree in reply to the government's resignation was issued today, as follows:

To General Azhari, the prime minister: We accept the government's resignation with utmost regret. Until a new government is formed, you are assigned to administer the government's affairs as before.

Niavaran Palace, 1 January 1979.

BAKHTIAR LISTS FOUR CONDITIONS FOR FORMING GOVERNMENT

LD0113417 Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] Here is our special correspondent in Iran, (?Yves L'Oiseau), speaking from Iran: I met Shapur Bakhtiar this morning at his home north of Tehran. He seems full of confidence after meeting the shah twice in the last few days. As a matter of fact, it is Bakhtiar who now spells out his conditions for the shah. There are four conditions: first, the departure of the shah and replacement by a regency council; second, disbanding the secret police, SAVAK; third, bringing to justice those military and civilian personnel who committed outrages during the (?recent) events; fourth, total control of the Foreign Ministry by the civil government. This is where the situation stands at the moment. The strike is still general and demonstrations continue all over the country.

Bakhtiar Addresses Nation

LD0119047 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD

[Address to nation by Iranian political figure Shahpur Bakhtiar--recorded]

[Text] After 25 years of consistent struggles and continuous protests against the way the country has been run, we are today witnessing massive and extensive chaos in our beloved Iran.

My own political life the past 30 years has not been the least bit ambiguous. I had many chances to progress after the 19 August 1953 coup d'etat which culminated in the collapse of the national government of Dr Mossadeq. Nevertheless, I preferred unemployment and prison to becoming involved in working for repressive governments. Now that in the autumn of my life I have accepted this historic and grave task, everyone knows that I have no other intention but to save the country, which is passing through the darkest period of its existence.

Now that the government treasury is empty and a wave of strikes and anarchy has engulfed most parts of the country, being aware of all the problems, I have accepted the task of forming a national government, although I too could have tried to protect my national reputation at any price and stayed among the noble people.

However, I believe any true and patriotic Iranian who finds his country in such a situation and still remains indifferent betrays his nationality, his honor and his conscience. I know better than anyone else the existing malaise in Iranian society. The 25 years of corrupt and antinational governments have led our society toward corruption, despondency and lack of faith. Never had we have so much corruption as during the past 15 years, so much so that the gulf between the haves and the haves-not was increasing daily. The country's agriculture is nonexistent, and the country's industry, which should have had a foundation and should have been built on the basis of economic principles, has been turned into an assembly line in the interests of a very few.

Our cultural and educational programs are changing every year due to the efforts of a number of unqualified and indifferent individuals. As for the nonprofit sectors, colossal investments have been combined with misappropriations by groups of executives. With no regard for necessity or priority, tremendous sums have been granted to countries, the names of some of which are unfamiliar to most Iranians. The influence of factions and ludicrous individuals causing discord has skillfully shaken our Shi'ite religious unity. More importantly, the honor of work and labor, this real asset of the nation, has been plundered through laziness and carelessness.

Our present situation is the outcome of the aforementioned injustices and indifference. I and my friends in the National Front and the Iran Party have not had the slightest involvement in these chaotic situations; we are now only a witness to their disastrous consequences.

If we have a clear conscience, it does not eliminate our national duty. I bear in mind during this grave period all the utterances and writings by myself and my friends. I am loyal to all the ideas and thoughts of my 30 years of political life. I shall use all my legal authority and potential to realize these aspirations.

I am prepared at this historic moment which will determine our destiny to hand over this crucial task of office of the prime minister to any Iranian who volunteers to serve. But I am not prepared, even at the cost of my life or my prestige and honor, to allow my country to be directed toward destruction and extinction. As the son of one of the constitutional leaders and as one of the most faithful aides of the nation's great leader, Dr Mohammad Mossadeq, I swear to fight to my last breath against separatists and those who speak in terms of Iranian peoples and of a flag different from the Iranian flag.

I swear that as soon as I come to power I will speedily mete out maximum punishment to those who have abused public funds.

I swear to propagate the Islamic religion in my country and respect other recognized religions.

I swear to release all political prisoners, provided their offenses are political.

I swear to bring about as quickly as possible all individual and social freedoms specified in the constitution and in the universal declaration of human rights.

All those held as political prisoners will be released.

I will abolish martial law gradually, so that the army will always be ready to defend the country's borders. The Iranian Army cannot be separate from Iran and from the Iranian people. We are all brothers from the same ancestors and the same religion.

Arrangements will be made as soon as possible so that the press can resume work freely, in accordance with the country's existing laws and without censorship.

I will carefully see to it that survivors of the martyrs of the past 3 months receive every material and moral assistance if needed.

All political parties which are not illegal may resume activity. Even proscribed groups may join others provided they have no foreign connections and after investigation.

In view of the foregoing and bearing in mind the country's critical situation and backed by 30 years of nationalist political attitude and liberal-mindedness, I ask all my compatriots to stop any action that might lead to destruction, [words indistinct] or to welfare of others, even if this be temporary. If all the foregoing promises are not fulfilled within a reasonable period of time, you will then be able to review your judgment and invalidate my career of 30 years. But the enemies of the country must realize that I have accepted responsibility with the knowledge and (?awareness) of the country's sorry state. Backed by the power of faith and the support of all you dear friends, I hope the country's chaos will be righted and that the country will be directed toward a true social democratic system. In this regard I appeal for the assistance of the Almighty and the efforts of those who know me. No threat or (?intimidation) can deflect me from the path of serving the country.

NATIONAL FRONT SPOKESMAN GIVES VIEWS ON BAKHTIAR

LD0119GOY Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] In Iran, Mr Shahpur Bakhtiar has still not succeeded in forming his civilian government. It is true that he is encountering enormous difficulties, particularly with his old friends from the National Front. But on this subject listen to what Mr Salamatian, the National Front spokesman told our special correspondent in Tehran, (Yves L'Oiseau).

[Salamatian--begin recording] We think that the revolutionary movement in Iran--because this is exactly what it is--has shown enough strength so that, for once, it is understood that public opinion and the will of the people in Iran (?are going) to be a feature of the political scene. The Bakhtiar operation is an operation which has not taken and does not take into account the popular will. It is also part of the same system; it resembles a little the system of informing which SAVAK was seeking at the time when it was torturing our people in prison. We are tough and we have to be. This is the need of the popular movement in our country, and it is loyalty which demands so many sacrifices in our country which makes us tough, even if it is difficult and painful from time to time on the personal level. [end recording]

It also should be noted that, on New Year's Day, the traders and shopkeepers of the Grand Bazaar in Tehran sent a telegram to President Giscard d'Estaing to thank him for all he has done for Ayatollah Khomeyni and for agreeing to renew his residence permit which was in theory due to expire on 5 January.

AFP ON REACTION TO BAKHTIAR SPEECH

TA021227Y Paris AFP in English 1200 GMT 2 Jan 79 TA

[Excerpt] Tehran, Jan 7 (AFP)--Renewed demonstrations in the Iranian capital today, following vehement overnight anti-shah slogan-shouting by people on rooftops, indicated that last night's broadcast by Premier-designate Shahpur Bakhtiar was received with indifference if not derision.

In the broadcast, Mr Bakhtiar called for the formation of a government of national union and said he hoped to lead the country towards "a social democratic regime." But soon after the televised broadcast, and as the capital came under the nightly curfew, householders climbed again to their rooftops to shout more loudly than usual their traditional slogans. These included "Allah is great," "Death to the shah," and "Long live Khomeyni"--exiled religious opposition leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni now in France. Demonstrations in Tehran's streets today also seemed to indicate that Mr. Bakhtiar's appeal for calm had gone unheeded.

However, the broadcast was heard with care. Restaurant waiters suddenly disappeared, telephones rang unanswered, and the few cars still in the streets stopped to allow passers-by to hear Mr Bakhtiar speaking on the radio.

A general reaction to the broadcast was that Mr Bakhtiar "said nothing" and made only "vage promises." Typical of a widespread reaction was the comment by a Tehran doctor, "he didn't say anything about doing away with Savak (the political police). He said nothing about torture, and his comments on press freedom seemed restrictive so far as political parties are concerned since he mentioned only legal parties, that is those which have never really worried the shah," the doctor added.

Telephone contacts with the northeastern holy city of Mashhad, scene of recent bloody rioting, indicated that the broadcast was received with indifference there too.

SENATE TO MEET IN CLOSED SESSION 3 JANUARY

TA021218Y Paris AFP in English 1200 GMT 2 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, Jan 2 (AFP)--The Iranian Senate is to meet in closed session early tomorrow, Radio Tehran reported here today. The reports said the meeting was being held at the request of Senate President Mohammad Sandjabi. It did not indicate what subjects would be discussed.

TEHRAN REPORTS FIVE KILLED IN 29 DEC DEMONSTRATIONS

LD291235Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Although most of Tehran's streets were quiet and calm today, scattered demonstrations did take place in certain parts of the city.

These were in Eisenhower, Karun, Tehran-e Now Avenues and in the vicinity of Farahabad Avenue; law enforcement officers dispersed the participants. There were also clashes between demonstrators and law enforcement officers on Shir-e-Khorshid and Jamshid Avenues. Burning car tires on Shah Reza, Javadiyeh, Rah Ahan and on certain avenues in south Tehran created traffic jams, and law enforcement officers dispersed the demonstrators by shooting in the air and throwing tear-gas grenades.

Our correspondents' dispatches from Shiraz, Hamadan, Nahavand, Khorramabad, Tabriz, Maragheh, Zarab, Gorab, Mahabad, Esfahan, Shiraz and Rasht indicate that demonstrations have taken place there. In Hamadan the demonstrators set fire to an office and a restaurant and in Nahavand to five bank buildings. During these demonstrations law enforcement officers warned the demonstrators not to commit arson or destroy buildings; but the warning went unheeded. Four persons were killed and 25 were wounded in the demonstrations.

In Khorramabad, too, a group of demonstrators attacked certain government organizations and banks, smashing windows and setting fire to Lorestan's General Department of Agriculture. Officials from Lorestan's Red Lion and Sun hospital said that 15 people were wounded and were receiving treatment. Khorramabad's doctors and dentists, condemning the incident in the Shah Reza hospital in Mashhad, announced that from tomorrow morning until Thursday, 4 January, they will treat all patients gratis.

In Rasht demonstrations also took place, which law enforcement officers dispersed by firing tear gas. A group of Esfahanis also went on a quiet march; there were no incidents.

In Maragheh, demonstrators smashed the windows of several banks and set fire to several others. One person was killed and several others wounded.

Demonstrations took place in Jondi Shahpur No 1 hospital in Ahvaz yesterday. The demonstrators wanted to hold a march, but were prevented from doing so by law enforcement officers. Quoting law enforcement officials in Ahvaz, our correspondent reported that in the course of the subsequent demonstrations 16 law enforcement officers were hurt by flying stones. The martial law officers were forced to fire tear gas and fire into the air. The demonstrators left two people wounded, who were taken to the hospital for treatment.

Also last night a group of demonstrators set fire to the Iran-U.S. Society and the branches for four banks in Ahavz.

A group of demonstrators in Shahpur town in Azarbayjan Province, after marching through the town's streets, went to the hamlet of Ahahjan where farmers protested against the demonstrations and a clash ensued between anti- and pro-demonstrators. During the clash 12 persons were wounded.

30 Dec Report

LD3018097 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Dec 78 LD

[Text] In Tehran today a number of people staged demonstrations and caused fires in incidents in Takht-e Tavus, Takht-e Jamshid, Khayyam and Khaleh Streets, as well as in Shahnaz Square, Tehran-e Now, Khorasan Square, Cemetery Road, and Behesht-e Zahra cemetary. Several scattered groups staged demonstrations at Tajrish Bazaar and caused disorder and traffic problems by setting fire to old tires.

Demonstrations were staged in the cities of Tabriz, Mashhad, Rasht, Ardabil, Sari, Lar, Behbahan, Shahi, Borujerd, Nansar, Now Shahr, Chalus and Shiraz. As a result of clashes between security forces and the demonstrators, who had committed acts of sabotage and arson, several people were killed and wounded on both sides. Violent clashes occurred mostly in the cities of Mashhad, Tabriz, Rasht and Ardabil.

In Tabriz this afternoon groups of demonstrators tried to attack and set fire to two foreign consulates. The demonstrators also set a consumer distribution cooperative on fire.

In Mashhad the clashes between security forces and demonstrators took place after repeated warnings by the security forces to the demonstrators to disperse. The number of people killed and wounded in Mashhad has been variously reported by news agencies.

In Masjed Soleyman several bank branches were damaged and one bank branch was set on fire. Demonstrators were dispersed after security forces intervened.

In Rasht, demonstrators attacked 2 transport companies and set fire to more than 10 private cars. They also set fire to trailers, trucks, several houses, documents and papers in several bank branches, telephone kiosks, mail boxes and private enterprises.

In the demonstrations at Ardabil, saboteurs set fire to government-owned vehicles, documents and equipment in several banks. The demonstrators stopped cars from moving by setting fire to old tires and putting up street barricades.

In demonstrations in Shahi, a cinema, a bank branch and a government office and several shops were set on fire.

In most Mazandaran cities, shops, bank branches, schools and government offices were closed.

In Shiraz, an explosion at the city's Aryana cinema at 1240 caused substantial damage to the building.

Demonstrations at Lar were orderly at first but later degenerated into violence. A number of government offices and several bank branches were set on fire.

The education and training department of Fars Province has also announced that with the approval of the heads of nursery schools, primary schools and education guidance schools, these schools in Shiraz will be closed until Tuesday, 2 January, because of a shortage of fuel.

The citizens of Hamadan today were deeply concerned about the shortage of kerosene, especially in view of the region's cold weather. There were long lines of people trying to buy petrol. The police did not intervene in the demonstrations held in Hamadan today, and there were no clashes.

Demonstrations held in Tuyserkan today were dispersed following shots into the air by security forces.

In Nahavand, several shops were looted, and there are already shortages of kerosene, gasoline, bread and meat in the city.

U.S., UK Buildings Attacked

WA3014456Y London REUTER in English 1453 GMT 30 Dec 78 WA

[By John Rogers]

[Text] Tehran, Dec 30, REUTER--Mobs rioting against the shah of Iran attacked American and British buildings in four provincial cities today.

In Tehran, demonstrations and shooting flared in many areas as the shah prepared to install an opposition leader as his new prime minister.

Troops surrounded the American Consulate in the northwestern city of Tabriz to end an attack by demonstrators who smashed down the gate of the compound, U.S. Embassy sources said.

A British Embassy spokesman said offices of the British Council, London's cultural organization abroad, were attacked in the cities of Ahvaz, Shiraz and Mashhad.

AFP on Mashhad Clashes

BC3109?ZY Paris AFP in English 0923 GMT 31 Dec 78 BC

[Excerpt] Tehran, Dec 31 (AFP)--New clashes erupted today between anti-shah demonstrators and the army in the east Iranian holy city of Mashhad, where 41 people were killed and more than 100 injured yesterday, a reliable source said. Several attempts were also made this morning to start demonstrations in Tehran, where army patrols were guarding main highways.

In Mashhad, 1,000 kms (600 miles) east of Tehran, the most violent new clashes occurred near the hospital to which yesterday's injured were taken, the source said. More than 100,000 people had marched through the city of 700,000 people yesterday, according to a reliable source.

31 Dec Demonstrations

LD3117?3Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Dec 78 LD

[Text] A group of demonstrators in Tehran today tried to assemble other groups to hold street marches and demonstrations, but, with great supervision, security forces prevented them from doing this. According to our correspondents' reports, demonstrators in a number of city streets, including the Elizabeth Boulevard, 21-Meter Avenue, Lalezar-e Now, Pahlavi Hospital Road, Veterinary Road, Eisenhower Street, 24 Esfand Avenue, Javadieyeh Street, the Tehran bazaar and the Tajrish area, set fire to used tires and created artificial blockades, thus creating difficulties in public order and traffic.

Demonstrations were also staged in a number of provincial cities today. According to our correspondent's report from Tabriz, a gathering at the city's Jame' Mosque with its antinational and antipatriotic slogans caused a disturbance and disorder in the area. According to reports, a group of saboteurs was arrested in this city.

Demonstrations were again held in Khorramabad today, in the course of which the demonstrators set fire to the local malaria eradication department and several bank branches, and smashed the windows of the center for music of the provincial department of arts and culture and several bank branches.

According to our correspondent's report from Rasht, demonstrations which began from this morning in the city continued until this afternoon. In the course of the demonstrations a large number of bank branches were set on fire.

In Gilan Province, too, demonstrators uprooted trees and set fire to them, causing public disorder.

According to our correspondent's report from Ardebil, following the incidents in the city yesterday and today there were also demonstrations which involved attacks on several bank branches, and their furniture was used to set up street blockades. Security forces were able to disperse the demonstrators.

Our correspondent reports from Mashhad that demonstrations were held again today in the city and demonstrators shouting opposition slogans gathered in several streets, which resulted in casualties, but there have been varying reports on the number of people killed and injured in these demonstrations. There is no accurate information on this as yet.

Hamadan had a quiet day today, and, with offices and stores open, the people were busy with their normal daily activity.

Following the 4-day demonstrations in Nahavand city, extensive demonstrations were held in the city today, but the demonstrators were dispersed after intervention by security forces. Government offices, educational organizations and all stores were closed today in Nahavand. Demonstrators in this city set fire to most of the banks and threw into the streets the furniture of a number of stores.

1 Jan Demonstrations

LD0111447Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Scattered demonstrations occurred last night and today in Tehran and other cities. Today, Tehran's main bazaar and most of the shops near the bazaar were closed.

According to our correspondent from east Azarbayjan, Ahar experienced unrest today. A group of demonstrators gathered in front of Ahar's Red Lion and Sun hospital. As a result of these demonstrations in Ahar this morning, offices of a malaria eradication office, natural resources and sugar distribution facility, a tourism department guest house and branches of teachers' and mortgage banks and of the Saderat and Commerce banks were set afire.

Also, demonstrations were staged yesterday in Kermanshah. The demonstrations, which were quite peaceful initially, later assumed a different nature at Ferdowsi Square and ended with demonstrators setting fires in some parts of the city. Some banks and shops sustained damage.

More demonstrations were also staged this morning in Yazd, as well as at a hospital belonging to the NIOC in Ahvaz.

Further Report

LD0111925Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD

[Text] There were scattered demonstrations in Tehran and several Iranian cities last night and today. In Tehran, the demonstrations were held in a number of locations in the city, and on several occasions the demonstrations led to violence. On Navab Street, Hashemi intersection, a bus was set on fire by demonstrators. On Qiasi Street, several hand grenades were thrown at a vehicle carrying security forces, but the grenades did not explode and there were no casualties.

News agency reports regarding incidents in Mashhad during the past 2 days and clashes between saboteurs and demonstrators and security forces, in the course of which a number of people were killed and injured, differ markedly, and cite completely different figures. According to information received from the security authorities, in the incidents in Mashhad during the past 2 days nearly 106 people were killed and 215 people were injured and taken to hospitals for treatment. But most of the dead were killed when the security forces intervened to save the lives of innocent people or when they were trying to prevent demonstrators from setting fire to homes and stores or from attacking police and troops who were surrounded.

According to eyewitnesses in Mashhad, on many occasions saboteurs resorted to abominable and repulsive acts, some examples of which we shall relate here, to stress that such acts could not come from a faithful Muslim Iranian.

A group of people, wielding clubs and sticks, stopped automobiles and attacked and injured occupants who did not agree to what they demanded, or else set fire to their automobiles. As a result, a number of private automobiles, jeeps, buses and minibuses were destroyed, and more than 30 people were tragically murdered.

An army major, who had gone to Shah Reza hospital in Mashhad to visit his wife, was attacked by a group of thugs with knives and clubs, who killed him in front of his wife and tore his body limb from limb, and cut his eyes out of their sockets with a knife.

Many people were attacked and murdered in the vicinity of the Shrine of the Eighth Imam, peace be upon him, and their bodies were taken to the homes of the religious leaders.

Two retired NCO's were kidnaped from their homes and the pieces of their murdered bodies were found scattered in the streets a few hours later.

A traffic policeman on duty was first knifed by a youth. Then, while the policeman was in the hospital, instead of being given medical treatment for his injury, he was first stabbed in the stomach and then cut to pieces with a knife. Another person was murdered in the street and pieces of his body were hung from trees on Shah Avenue and then set on fire.

A couple who had just arrived in Mashhad city from a different town were attacked and murdered in their automobile, which was also set on fire.

People were attacked in the streets with clubs and sticks, and accused of being members of the security organization if they did not accede to the demands of their assailants. They were then taken to the homes of religious leaders and beaten up and injured.

Officers and military vehicles were attacked. The officers were beaten up and, in several cases, killed. On several occasions their weapons were stolen. A police colonel and a police lieutenant were kidnaped and injured. Public buildings were attacked and set on fire. Ambulances carrying injured people were attacked and the injured were killed and their bodies cut to pieces. [passage indistinct]

AFP Report

TA0100846Y Paris AFP in English 0839 GMT 1 Jan 79 TA

[Excerpt] Tehran, Jan 1 (AFP)--Gunfire continued early today as casualty figures from hospitals in the holy city of Mashhad in eastern Iran indicated that 70 people have died since violence yesterday morning and at least 2,000 others have been wounded.

Reliable sources said that throughout the night troops in the streets let off small arms and machinegun fire to discourage the public from breaking the curfew. Troops also reportedly fired on the gates of one hospital where several hundred people were waiting to visit wounded friends and relatives.

A doctor said that in the hospital bodies had been piled up in one of the corridors of the mortuary which was too small to cope with the casualties.

Following clashes yesterday between rioters and security forces, the city's moderate Shi'ite Moslem leader Ayatollah Shirazi had been quoted as putting the death toll at about 700 with more than 1,000 wounded. However, the chief surgeon at one of Mashhad's three main hospitals commented that this figure seemed "highly exaggerated."

In Ottawa, the Canadian Defence Ministry announced last night that a Boeing 747 airliner and a Hercules transport plane had left Trenton Air Base, Ontario for the north Iranian town of Rasht to evacuate 300 Canadians trapped near the Caspian Sea. A Canadian Foreign Ministry spokesman said the operation was mainly to evacuate employees of two Canadian companies isolated in the regions of Sari and Gilan some 500 kms (about 300 miles) north of the capital. (The companies, Stadler Hurter of Montreal and the Dillinghan Corporation of Vancouver, hold contracts worth more than 400 million dollars for the construction of factories in these areas.)

Doctors Appeal to Waldheim

TA0110559Y Paris AFP in English 1048 GMT 1 Jan 79 TA

[Excerpts] Tehran, Jan 1 (AFP)--With hospitals (?filled with) people killed in east Iran's holy city of Mashhad since violence yesterday morning, the city's 700 doctors today appealed to United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to intervene to halt the bloodshed.

Appealing to him to act "to stop massacres by the army," the doctors said "every day in Mashhad we witness killings and massacres committed without reason against a defenceless population."

The statement, which could not be transmitted directly to Mr Waldheim because of a post office strike, continued: "There is no longer any room in the hospitals for the wounded." The doctors said that within Iran there was no way of preventing "the criminal acts of the military which are becoming more widespread and now appear to be acts of madness."

In an appeal for calm, Ayatollahs (Shi'ite Moslem religious leaders) Mar'ashi and Qomi said soldiers had been found hanged in the city yesterday, adding that these were acts of provocation by the secret police, SAVAK.

FRG EMBASSY URGES GERMANS TO LEAVE IRAN

LD3109355Y Hamburg DPA in German 0709 GMT 31 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Tehran--The FRG Embassy in Tehran today recommended that all Germans who do not have to remain in Iran for professional reasons should leave the country. The recommendation, which was issued in agreement with the diplomatic representatives of all other Western countries, was justified because of the general situation in Iran.

A statement issued by the heads of German companies at an urgent meeting in the ambassador's residence says: "The general situation in Iran, including the economic aspects in the private sphere, has now reached a point where the embassy recommends that you seriously consider sending the members of your families home voluntarily." This also applies to those who can be spared from their jobs in Iran.

The embassy also said that it would be expedient to postpone trips to Iran that were not absolutely necessary. At present there are still some 10,000 Germans in Iran.

OIL OUTPUT ONLY MEETING ONE-THIRD OF DOMESTIC DEMAND

LD2917427Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Oil production in our country was reduced today to the level of 250,000-300,000 barrels per day.

Reports indicate that under current circumstances, Abadan and Tabriz refineries are operating at more than half capacity. The Shiraz refinery closed a long time ago. The Tehran refinery, operating at half capacity prior to the ending of kerosene and gas oil supplies, has now reduced its production considerably. The current production of the Abadan and Tabriz refineries is not adequate to meet domestic requirements. Moreover, the stoppage of pipelines carrying refinery products from Abadan to Tehran as well as stoppage of pipelines in other parts of the country has further affected the current shortage.

Strikes and slowdowns in refineries have also resulted in a shortage of liquefied gas.

It should be pointed out that domestic oil consumption averages 750,000 barrels a day, fluctuating in winter and summer. The present production of 250,000 barrels a day meets one-third of the country's requirements.

DETAINED KHUZESTANI OIL WORKERS TO BE RELEASED

LD3011557 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Dec 78 LD

[Text] According to our correspondent in Ahvaz, the Khuzestan governor general announced a few moments ago that any members of the oil industry's staff in detention for various reasons are to be released.

TEHRAN DELEGATION IN AHVAZ TO DISCUSS FUEL PROBLEMS

LD0111107 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Another topic in the news is the subject of providing petroleum products for domestic consumption. This question has entered a new stage with the visit of a delegation to the oil-rich regions. The delegation, which is led by Eng Mehdi Bazargan, arrived in Ahvaz yesterday morning. The leader of the delegation later spoke about the delegation's tasks and work program at a meeting with people of this city. We have a report on this from Bahman Shahrokhzadeh in Ahvaz:

As broadcast in newscasts of the Voice of Iran and Profile of Iran yesterday, Eng Mehdi Bazargan arrived in Ahvaz at 1000 yesterday, and in the afternoon he and his delegation took part in a meeting with workers of the NIOC and its related industries and representatives of other social groups. In his speech yesterday Eng Mehdi Bazargan pointed out that his delegation, under the guidance of the great ulema, has been commissioned to discuss issues pertaining to domestic national fuel consumption requirements with representatives of the striking NIOC workers. He said he is hopeful that the issue of providing fuel for domestic consumption will be resolved.

Engineer Bazargan referred to the history of the oil industry and said that prior to leaving for Ahvaz he had met with Mr 'Abdollah Entezam, chairman of the NIOC Board of Directors and managing director, and discussed with him the delegation's mission. He added that Entezam had declared his readiness to help in this respect. Similarly, favorable responses have been given by the military authorities in this respect.

It was also stated at the meeting yesterday afternoon that an office for the delegation will be assigned today, at which time the delegation will start work. A daily newsletter for general information, especially for oil workers on the progress of the delegation's work on the question of supplying fuel for the country's requirements, will be published. With the start of work by this delegation, there is considerable hope that difficulties concerning domestic fuel consumption will soon be remedied.